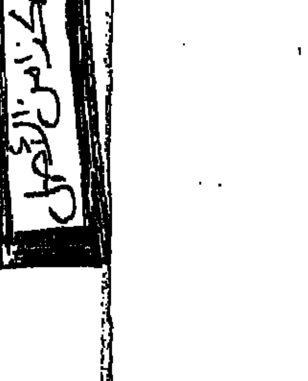


The German Tribune

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Ostpolitik has a role to play in detente moves as a whole



STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

In comparison with the Soviet Union and the United States this country is, in terms of foreign policy, a proverbial dwarf and can be happy not to be outmanoeuvred by the giants into a position in which it has no leeway whatsoever.

In view of the prevailing power position the politicians in Bonn are continually well advised not to overestimate their own possibilities.

At the same time too much modesty can be a mistake, particularly when it is a matter of assessing the consequences of one's own foreign policy concept and of reviewing it to make sure the required effect is obtained.

An assessment of this kind calls for clarity about one's own role in international affairs. It is as wrong to overrate one's *own position* as it is to underestimate it.

It seems only natural to review the situation at a juncture at which the foreign policy scene has been enlivened and illuminated by an entire series of signals.

And to set about unearthing the factors responsible for this development, is to come to the easily-reached conclusion that Bonn's foreign policy has exerted a not inconsiderable influence on the course of events.

This foreign policy, originally misleadingly termed *Ostpolitik*, or policy towards the Eastern Bloc, has led and can be proved to have led to a far-reaching reorientation of foreign policy in both parts of Europe and beyond.

There can also no longer be any denying that it was based on an accurate assessment of the interests of the great powers.

This is most apparent in the so-called Salt talks, an attempt by the great powers to reach agreement over our heads on a limitation of the nuclear arms race.

Where would this country be had it not attempted to counteract this trend and play its part in the process of detente? It would have been notorious in both East and West as a handicap and a mischief-maker.

It has meanwhile become apparent that *Ostpolitik* is not pursued at the expense of relations with the West. It would even be wrong to state that while Bonn has, of course, tried to achieve progress in the West it has overlooked the fact that *Ostpolitik* has had a fundamental influence on policy towards the West.

We must, once and for all, grow used to the idea of viewing and evaluating *Ostpolitik* in the context of foreign policy as a whole.

The Social and Free Democratic coalition in Bonn may have bitten off more than it can chew in laying claim to be a Cabinet of domestic reform.

Its assertion that efforts to bring about a relaxation of tension with Moscow would benefit the process of European integration rather than hinder it was, however, by no means premature.

A particularly enlightening example is the change that has taken place in the role played by France, which is now at the fore among European integrationists.

In common with Britain and America France was not particularly pleased at the prospect of renewed involvement in the Berlin question and the reminder that it has certain obligations towards the divided city.

Now, however, the French are such enthusiastic advocates of detente that they lay claim to responsibility for the thaw in Moscow, thus French Foreign Minister Schumann on a recent visit to Bonn.

It is no less a coincidence that French President and staunch Gaullist M. Pompidou has emerged as a champion of European integration. Bonn was astute and tactful enough not only to cede this role to the French head of state but deliberately to play it into his hands.

Yet there is no reason to paper over the fact that the groundwork was laid by Bonn. Not even the Brussels monetary crisis has proved an obstacle in the way of European rapprochement. If anything it has accelerated the process.

Dissatisfaction with the alleged national egoism of this country played no mean part in the Anglo-French agreement on the Common Market.

Last but not least it must be noted that even Nato, which it was feared might be undermined by a naive policy of detente, has gathered momentum rather than declined as a result of the course of events.

It is worth recalling how difficult it used to be to maintain defence preparedness. The gradual decline has now been brought to a halt and the European group within Nato represents a first step on the road to European cooperation.

President Nixon would have had far less success in dealing with his opponent Senator Mike Mansfield over the amendment on troop cuts in Europe had he not been able to renew Soviet interest in talks on troop cuts and disarmament.

General-Secretary Brezhnev would hardly have been in a position to sound the Tiflis signal had Central Europe still been in a Stone Age state of coldest cold war.

Proof of the beneficial effect of Bonn's foreign policy on the course of international affairs cannot merely be a matter of self-congratulation, though. For the time being detente is only in its early stages.

Even if the Berlin question were to be settled we would only be nearer the tip of the iceberg. A satisfactory Berlin settlement will in practice be at best tolerable – comparison with the treaty-less state of affairs that has so far been the city's lot.

In other words, detente can never be any more than a fine word for a relaxation of tension that will continue to exist even if the level of mutual military threat in Central Europe is reduced a little.

It is not a matter of paving the path of foreign policy with illusions. It must merely be realised more clearly than in the past that regardless of the bones of contention that litter it it remains the right one.

Oskar Fehrenbach

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 18 June 1971)

IN THIS ISSUE

Kiel Week

President Gustav Heinemann, accompanied by his wife Hilda, visited Kiel Week which opened on 19 June. Because of the keen wind Hilda Heinemann had to anchor her hat on with a scarf. The President was the guest of Gerhard Stoltenberg, (extreme right), Prime Minister of Schleswig-Holstein. (Photo: dpa)

Brezhnev speaks temperately at SED party congress in East Berlin

Sober judges of world affairs could hardly have expected Leonid Brezhnev to use the eighth congress of the Socialist Unity Party (SED) in East Berlin as the setting for a sensational detente signal.

It is noteworthy enough for him to have calmly announced at a congress called to differentiate between the GDR and this country that the Soviet leadership continues to be interested in reaching understanding with the West.

This relative moderation contrasts starkly with the order of the day, 16 June, passed on to Erich Honecker, the new SED leader, by a general in the National People's Army. The armed forces, he noted, were "deeply filled with hatred of the enemy."

Three points in Leonid Brezhnev's speech are worth noting. His mention of a number of positive changes in Europe includes the part played by this country in bringing about these changes.

Second, he reiterated previous statements to the effect that the Soviet Union intends to restore to normal the situation of West Berlin and the West Berliners.

Third, he confirmed in as many words what Chancellor Brandt has stated on a number of occasions: that agreement between this country and the Soviet Union presupposes concessions by both sides.

This emphasis makes it clear that Mr Brezhnev expects the new SED leadership to toe the Soviet line. Erich Honecker's mention of West Berlin as a city with a special political status sounds a note different from that of the previous assertion that West Berlin was an independent political unit.

The ostentatious way in which Walter Ulbricht was ignored at the congress is a further indication that the Kremlin is interested in a more malleable leadership in East Berlin.

The wish that East Berlin toe the line may also be one of the factors involved in Herr Honecker's accusation of certain "indications of subjectivism, insistence on being in the right, painting the situation in too glowing colours and disregarding the collective."

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 18 June 1971)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Britain's EEC entry should not be delayed too long

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Efforts to extend the European Economic Community (EEC) to Britain, Ireland, Denmark and Norway have entered the home straight. There can be no doubt that the finish will be extremely complicated, an obstacle race indeed.

Oddly enough the gravest obstacles are putting in an appearance at points entirely different from those where they were expected only a matter of weeks ago.

There was expected to be the toughest of bargaining between Common Market governments and the negotiating teams of the would-be members. Since the meeting between President Pompidou of France and Premier Heath of Britain all has been sweetness and light, though, and difficulties are disappearing into thin air.

Witness the surprising speed at which agreement was recently reached in Luxembourg on so complex an issue as the phasing out of sterling's role as a reserve currency.

The final round of the Luxembourg talks may have featured the customary heated debate and late-night sessions but what matters is that there has been a complete change in the atmosphere of negotiations.

The gravest obstacles in the way of EEC expansion are now the forces of public opinion in the would-be member countries. In Denmark, Norway and Ireland a referendum will in all probability be held and no one can predict the outcome.

And public and parliamentary debate in Britian on the pros and cons of Common Market membership has reached such fever pitch that it is difficult indeed to forecast the outcome.

The great debate has one advantage. The EEC has suddenly assumed immediate importance for a wider public. It is no longer merely a matter of complicated technical negotiations conducted in some far-off Continental capital.

A spate of newspaper advertisements by pro- and anti-Marketeers has in many cases demagogically dramatised the pros and cons but whatever else it may have done it has brought home to the British public that the issue is one of major domestic significance and the entry bid involves fundamental issues of contemporary democratic practice such as the whip and the referendum.

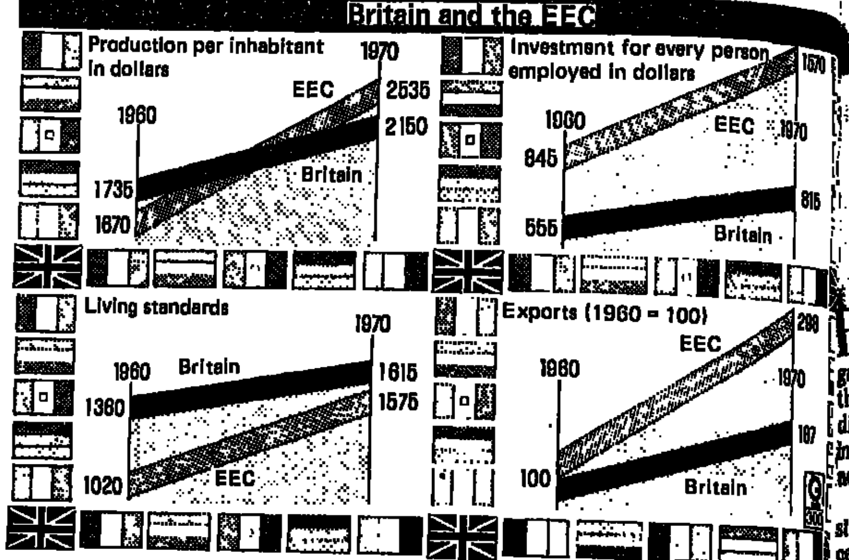
It is doubtful whether in the circumstances Mr Heath will be able to adhere to his plan of compelling the Commons to come to a decision before the summer recess.

Initially he was evidently convinced he could best gain a parliamentary majority in favour of joining the Common Market by staging a lightning campaign the upshot of which would be that Britian would find it had joined the EEC "on a hot summer afternoon when the nation is paddling at the seaside."

Mr Heath may still prefer this procedure. It is, however, growing increasingly doubtful whether he will successfully reach his target in this way.

At the onset of the great debate the Conservative government appeared unimpressed by the uncommonly large number of people who according to the opinion polls were opposed to joining.

Mr Barber, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, commented that "A clear majority of political leaders, a majority of the press and a majority of industry are in favour of joining. You can hardly expect the leader of the Conservative Party on



18 June 1970 (when the Tories came to power despite most opinion poll forecasts of a Labour victory) to be much impressed by opinion polls."

Meanwhile anti-Market propaganda has not been without effect, with the result that a surprise victory is no longer a certain prospect. What is more, a fair number of Conservative MPs are against a precipitate decision because they need time to consult their constituencies.

Developments in the Opposition Labour Party also compel Mr Heath to reconsider his tactics. Active and agile Labour opponents of EEC membership are pressing for a swift decision because they are convinced that if Labour had to vote today a majority would be against joining.

Labour's Europeans, on the other hand, are playing for time. They hope by autumn and the annual Party conference to have persuaded a majority to revert to the pro-European course of old.

These hopes do not seem entirely unjustified. To begin with they have at least succeeded in getting a special Labour conference postponed until 23 June and after the Luxembourg talks have come to a conclusion.

Edward Heath is on the horns of a dilemma. There is much to be said in

Continued on page 3

Balkan approa[ch] to Peking

While Rumanian leader N. Ceausescu is touring the C[hinese] provinces and unconfirmed reports [from] China suggest that this spectacular [tour] may well be crowned by the conclusion of a bilateral friendship pact a[nother] European politician is on his way [to the] Chinese capital.

Yugoslav Foreign Minister Mirko [Tepa]vac may not be so high-ranking as the Rumanian leader but in view [of] past enmity between the two co[untries] the visit remains of the utmost p[olitical] significance.

Tepavac is the first Yugoslav [...] to visit China since diplomatic r[elations] between the two countries were es[tablish]ed in 1955 and his visit doubtless [...] the Soviet Union in mind.

Even though the two countries c[on]tinue to be at irreconcilable ideolog[ical] loggerheads the visit, coming as it do[es at] a time when the Sino-Soviet co[nflict] remains unresolved, considerably b[...] the Soviet claim to be the sole p[...] and ideological centre of Western [com]munism.

The two Balkan countries [...] China as a foreign policy counter[weight to] the Soviet Union. For Belgrade [...] more important still that China be ca[lled] on to redress the balance in view of [the] superpower of the United States and [the] Soviet Union.

This is the interpretation that must [be] attached to comments in Belgrade rec[all]ing the positive role played by China [in] the days of the Bandung Conference. [The] 1955 Afro-Asian conference can be [seen] as a precursor of the non-aligned po[licy] of developing countries.

It is also noted that Peking resp[onded] equally positively to the last, th[...] ference of non-aligned countries in [Lusa]ka in 1969. Compliments of this [kind] shed general light on the direction [of] Yugoslav intentions as far as Chi[na is] concerned.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 9 June 1971)

Everyone in the Western world knows that a reduction in the number of US troops stationed in Europe renders joint European defence of some kind or another necessary if European security is to retain the slightest credibility as a concept.

Is joint European defence planning a utopian dream?

It is also clear that it would be irresponsible to enter into serious negotiations with the East on mutual troop cuts before Western Europe takes its defence into its own hands and so provides for a better balance within the framework of a disarmament system.

Yet no one is prepared to make a serious attempt to solve the problem of European defence. In the Western European Union, the only supranational organisation with a parliament competent to raise defence issues, the topic is taboo.

In recent years France has repeatedly raised the matter but has so disheartened its fellow-members by pursuing a nationally-oriented defence policy that no one has had the courage to go into the French proposals.

In the recent past a number of French hints about the possibility of nuclear cooperation with Whitehall have remained unanswered, largely because London is unable to visualise cooperation of this kind with a country that is not militarily a part of the Atlantic alliance.

In view of their nuclear potential the major countries involved in drafting any feasible European defence concept can only be America, France and Britain. Washington realises that effective European defence presupposes nuclear cooperation between Britain and France.

In principle America is prepared to make a contribution of its own towards Anglo-French cooperation by allowing Britain to pass on to France a number of US nuclear secrets so as to make it easier for France to expand its nuclear potential.

The Americans would, however, prefer to hold back until Britain and French have reached agreement by and large. Only then will it be clear to what extent France is prepared to integrate into a European defence system linked to the United States.

The way America feels at present France need not rejoin Nato. At the very least, however, it must participate in joint nuclear target planning and agree to joint rules on the use of tactical nuclear warheads.

Officially Britain is adopting a passive attitude because, as is continually reiterated, its hands are tied by agreements with America.

Whitehall has yet to show willing to play ball with the game suggested by the United States and enter into fact-finding if not binding negotiations with France.

The French for their part consider the whole affair to be pointless since Britain, they reckon, has nothing of interest to offer them that would not first have to be cleared by the United States.

This pointlessness has led to a general decrease in flexibility of the French position. President Pompidou recently noted that he felt there was little point in joint nuclear target planning, a form of cooperation that France has so far given every consideration.

Unless France changes its mind on this point it could even as a result be obliged to abandon plans to station tactical nuclear weapons in this country by 1973 or 1974.

Confusion in the Mediterranean is no less complete, witness the latest threat by the American Finance Secretary to withdraw the US Sixth Fleet from the Mediterranean unless Europe agrees to play ball in monetary and trade policy.

The only Mediterranean countries to feel directly threatened by the Soviet Union, by the way, are Italy and Yugoslavia. In both cases domestic reasons apply.

This country is anxious to strike a positive and harmonious note but has little leeway. The French proposal for joint training of pilots at French airfields and using the joint training aircraft is likely to come to naught because of the difficulty of raising the additional 2,000 officers and men needed to serve as instructors.

It is more straightforward to continue to have pilots trained in the United States, where the personnel is available even though it is a costly business.

In view of the difficulties encountered over such a minor aspect of joint defence one may well ask whether the slightest consideration of joint European defence is not verging on the brink of utopia.

Alfred Frisch

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 14 June 1971)

The German Tribune

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POLITICS

Differences of opinion on Berlin Question may have been a storm in a teacup

Bonn government and Opposition have once again discovered common ground on the Berlin Question — at least they have in principle. Now it seems difficult to believe that there was once an inter-party storm surrounding the Berlin negotiations.

Opposition leader Rainer Barzel has struck up a conciliatory tone and Chancellor Willy Brandt has been avoiding anything that might lead to aggravation when answering questions during the short discussion periods in the Bundestag.

The reason for the controversies that have kept flaring up is not to be found in the actual positions taken up at negotiations, which the three Western powers have agreed on with the Bonn government so much as in the fact that the Opposition has grabbed by the scruff of the neck every opportunity to heap a catalogue of sins on the Chancellor, such as inexcusable tractability and weakness whenever the government has attempted to show the limits for improvements in Berlin.

As a matter of fact the Chancellor and his Foreign Minister, Walter Scheel, have had to correct their initial optimism several times. First they said a Berlin settlement would be cut and dried by the end of 1970. Now the end of 1971 is being mentioned as a possible deadline, but in much vaguer terms.

Limitations in the presence of government offices and official events in Berlin has been described as the breaking down of superfluous demonstrations of the mutual *ties between the* Federal Republic and Berlin and *not* as a necessary concession.

Nevertheless the impression remains that Bonn is scaling down its demands on Berlin step by step, so that in the end it can present the contents of a possible four-power agreement as a solution that satisfies all specified requirements so that the treaties with the East Bloc can at last be ratified.

The Opposition exploited this impression greatly especially in an article under the pseudonym of „Wieland Deutsch" in the magazine *Liberal* which was actually written by government spokesman Rüdiger von Wochmar.

In fact this article only described the actual difficulties in securing a Berlin settlement. But „Wieland Deutsch" was not content with replacing the Berlin illusions that have been nurtured for twenty years with a stone-cold sober appraisal of the realities.

He has rejected many if the demands and appraisals made previously without mincing his words calling them *Mumpitz* (balderdash)! This was the main reason why there were such howls of disapproval following the publication of this article.

The two major parties have swappea roles. In the past it was the CDU, the party which provided the chancellor that accused the opposition Social Democrats of exaggerated and unrealistic demands for Berlin, at least in discussions that were held in public.

Behind their hands, however, many opposition members confess that they could not do anything much differently from the government. The original nucleus of the controversy between the government and Opposition has now become of merely academic interest.

The CDU wanted an actual solution of the Berlin problem, which would have required long negotiations to work out a new status for the city.

This would only have been possible if the Soviets were prepared to make sweeping changes to their German policy, which would have been quite unimaginable. But there can be no question of the USSR going that far.

The West and Bonn can only work on the theory that the danger of conflict

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

bubbling over from the potential cauldron that is Berlin can be alleviated.

For this reason we are working towards rulings that on the one hand do not affect the status of West Berlin — however much this status might be disputed by the West and the East — but on the other hand allow undisrupted traffic to and from the city and respect by the Soviets of the growing ties between West Berlin and the Federal Republic rooted in a treaty.

The basic decision in favour of a pragmatic ruling on Berlin actually limits at the same time the room for manoeuvre when working towards an improvement of the situation of Berlin. The Soviet Union can no longer be bullied when it is in its interest to stop blocking the process of detente.

There are four complex factors laid on the negotiating table. Firstly undisturbed access to West Berlin from the Federal Republic, secondly access of West Berliners to East Berlin and the rest of the German Democratic Republic, thirdly representation of West Berlin foreign policies by the Federal Republic and the presence of West German institutions and agencies in the western part of the divided city.

One major problem is the way access regulations limit Soviet control while leaving practical administration to the GDR, leaving loopholes that could be a source of disturbance.

Only the bare outlines are provided here. The must be filled in by Bonn and East Berlin.

The second problem that from the domestic policy point of view could be explosive is the ruling about the presence of Federal Republic agencies in West Berlin. The Soviets want to come to an agreement on this and the guarantee that all claims that Berlin is a Federal state will be buried once and for all makes this easier for them.

In earlier days Bonn would certainly not have been prepared to concede this. But as a matter of fact this renunciation is not equivalent to giving up a rightful position since the Western powers have never recognised Berlin as Federal territory and nullified the corresponding article of Basic Law.

But the renunciation of the Federal presence in Berlin is a different kettle of fish; for instance giving up the right to elect the Federal President in West Berlin would not undermine the existence of the divided city.

Renunciations of such privileges, however, does show a change in attitudes which has been completed. The Opposition is not prepared to admit this publicly.

If a result is forthcoming from the Four-Power talk it can only be measured against the yardstick of the present state and the improvements that are made to it.

If the West's point of view is accepted then the answer will not be hard to arrive at. We only have to remember the Khrushchev ultimatum on Berlin to realise the change in Russian attitudes on German policy.

It is on this that the process of enlightenment on the domestic policy scene should be orientated.

Kurt Becker

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 June 1971)

Continued from page 2

favour of postponing a decision until the autumn, particularly as Mr Rippon, Whitehall's man in Brussels, proved extremely inept at convincing the House that the Luxembourg talks had been a success and upset friend and foe alike with his vague statements and awkward behaviour.

Yet the longer the decision is delayed the greater is the danger that the general public will come to associate Europe with swiftly rising prices. The first signs of this trend became apparent in recent by-elections in which the Conservatives came off particularly badly.

Not only for Britain but also for Europe as a whole a great deal will depend on the final outcome of the Luxembourg talks and the extent to which the British government is able to make it out to have been a success.

A recent comment by Mr Heath applies in equal measure to all the countries of Europe. "If this opportunity is missed" he said, "we will, I feel, be condemned for our lack of creative imagination by young people in this country and by future generations."

Alfred Hildebrand

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 June 1971)

Zoglmann establishes Deutsche Union, a party for the patriotic centre

Eleven months after the formation of national liberal group (NLA) as a protest against a Free Democrat Party which was moving more and more towards the left Deutsche Union was officially founded on 12 June in Düsseldorf.

Its chairman, by a huge majority, was Siegfried Zoglmann, who has been a guest of the Bavarian Christian Social Union since he broke away from the FDP.

At the foundation congress he rejected all the statements claiming that the new political party was practically stillborn.

He said that the foundation of the DU had come according to schedule. It was the party's aim, he added, to unite all national, liberal and conservative courses with the aim of breaking up the present socialist-left-wing liberal government by 1973 at the latest.

He said that the CDU/CSU were in no position to do this on their own. For this reason the DU would offer them close cooperation.

In the elegant Düsseldorf Hilton between 400 and 500 people were gathered for the baptisim of the new party. Two members of the United States House of Representatives were present as godfathers. They had arrived with an American delegation late, but not too late, in order to show the unity of freedom-loving forces in the USA and in the Federal Republic at the foundation ceremony.

Before the part of the proceedings that was open to the public began the line-up and basic programme of Deutsche Union had been agreed on and a leadership had been elected.

In speeches on policy Deutsche Union has set itself up as the party of the patriotic centre. It has expressed its belief in parliamentary democracy and the constitutional State but wants to see personal freedom limited when it endangers the freedom of others.

None of those who spoke in Düsseldorf could find a good word to say about the government's foreign policies and Ostpolitik and a party decision was reached calling for non-ratification of the "hastily signed Moscow and Warsaw treaties which were inimical to Europe".

The DU considers that a Berlin settlement, whatever form it may take, does not warrant the renunciation of a quarter of the German Reich.

Zoglmann's deputies on the party committee are Dietrich Bahner, representing Augsburg, Willi Homeier, Hanover, and Rudolf Wollner, Wiesbaden.

The former vice-president of the North-Rhine-Westphalian provincial assembly, Herr Schneider, will act as treasurer.

As a contribution to give the party a start the foundation congress participants donated 10,263.90 Marks.

Members of Deutsche Union are one-time Free Democrats, but obviously there are officials and members of the BHE (Federation of Expellees and Refugees).

Asked if the party had taken up any former NDP members Siegfried Zoglmann, who was ready for this lunge and prepared to duck it, said that Adolf von Thadden was not one of the "relevant negotiating partners" of Deutsche Union.

It was further learned that the party has at present 2,000 members, most of them in an official capacity. In order to create a rank and file the DU is setting up ten Federal state associations. At the meeting in Düsseldorf there was no hiding the fact that the party is top heavy with members from North-Rhine Westphalia.

Zoglmann's assertion that the DU had "many young members between 25 and 35" was not borne out by what was to be seen at the foundation ceremony. There was a large majority of middle-aged and elderly members.

The party plans to enter the election fray at the Baden-Württemberg provincial assembly elections. According to Zoglmann the NLA will continue to exist alongside Deutsche Union, working together with the main party.

Asked whether he as a member of the Bundestag would continue to be a guest of the CSU, Zogelmann replied that that depended on the CSU.

Despite the optimism that was put on show at the foundation ceremony the leadership of Deutsche Union admitted that now the party was in action it had a "damned serious and difficult task" ahead of it.

But the party was insensitive of forecasts of failure expressed in Bonn by the established FDP. According to Zoglmann a party leadership that could drag the FDP down to the three per cent level it had now reached in the latest public opinion polls was hardly suited to be a prophet.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 14 June 1971)

■ SOCIAL PROBLEMS

The Pill causes Bonn worries



The Pill has become a political issue. Startled by the constant and drastic decline in the birth rate, planners in Bonn are discussing the consequences that increasing use of the Pill will have.

Pessimists claim that economic development and the social security system are in danger. Optimists say that the decline in the birth rate will not continue and that furthermore the growth of population is in no way comparable with economic growth.

The authorities in Bonn have now turned to the subject. A small group of experts at the Ministry of Labour and Social Services — nicknamed the Pill Commission — have examined the possible results of a decline in the birth rate.

The Health Ministry is to head a series of interdepartmental discussions on the subject. The government will then be able to answer the question of whether the West Germans are about to destroy their own future.

The only clear facts are supplied by the population statistics. The number of births in 1967 was 31,000 less than in 1966. There was a further drop of fifty thousand in 1968, 66,000 in 1969 and 93,000 in 1970.

There is no indication that the trend will stop in the immediate future. Between 1965 and 1970 the birth surplus went down drom 6.2 to 1.2 per cent.

But the population of the Federal Republic has increased rapidly because of the large number of foreign workers and migrants coming to the country.

Nothing illuminates the situation more clearly than the fact that immigration made up fifty per cent of the population increase in 1968, almost eighty per cent in 1969 and probably ninety per cent in 1970.

The decline in the West German birth rate corresponds in striking fashion with data concerning the increasing use of the Pill.

Stressing that estimates are cautious, Oberregierungsrat Kremp, a senior government official and co-author of the reports issued by the Labour Ministry "Pill Commission", reckons that the sale of oral contraceptives rose from eight million packages in the second half of 1968 to twenty million in 1969 and 28 million in 1970.

At least 19 to 21 per cent of the twelve million women aged between 15 and 45 are estimated to take the Pill. Amongst the eight million married women in this age range the proportion will be around 29 to 31 per cent.

The use of oral contraceptives has increased from year to year, especially among young girls and married women. The taboo previously surrounding contraceptive methods has been removed as the Pill is prescribed like any other drug or medicament.

These statistics could give rise to pessimism. First reactions equate less births with less workers and less economic growth.

But the Labour Ministry experts do not accept this and dismiss suggestions that there must be either a growth in population or economic stagnation.

Most of the members of the "Pill Commission" hoped at first that the decline in the birth rate can be overcome by engaging more foreign workers.

But giving the matter closer thought, Ministerial Director Berié stated that in an extreme case this would lead to an unrealistic number of foreign workers.

The various forecasts conclude that the present ratio of one foreign worker to ten West German workers could rise to one to three or even one to one in the foreseeable future.

The Ministry of Labour is unwilling to make the Federal Republic's economy dependant on such a large number of foreign workers.

Experts on the social security side are happier. They are not alarmed by the possibility that a smaller and smaller

Birth rate in Germany 1900—1970
Live births per 1,000 inhabitants
(From 1945 the Federal Republic)

35.7 · 26.8 · 13.9 · 25.9 · 14.7 · 20.4 · 14.9 · 16.8 · 18.3
World War I (1914—1918) · Inflation · Economic crisis · World War II (1939—1945) · Baby Boom
1901 · 1914 · 1917 · 1920 · 1933 · 1939 · 1942 · 1949 · 1963

number of contributors would have to pay for more and more pensions.

Ministerial Director Horst Löwe states that their estimates show that developments up to the year 2000 can be awaited with calm.

After the large number of pensions due in the second half of the seventies is overcome, the pension insurance schemes will show increasing surpluses, enabling them to absorb increased financial burdens resulting from the decline in the birth rate.

The increased productivity expected by the year 2000 will then enable ways and means to be found for covering the increased cost of pensions insurance, Horst Löwe siad.

Critics consider this to be an optimistic belief in progress. They point out that the increased productivity expected could take longer than anticipated in view of the necessary educational reforms and the consequent bottlenecks on the labour market.

Their main argument is that the contributions surplus could be affected or even fully absorbed by an increase in pensions, the proposed introduction of a flexible retiring age or by payments to maintain non-working women.

Planners in Bonn are working with a number of unknown quantities. The more or less fixed estimates have been shattered by the Pill. An offical at the Ministry of Health stated: "We are faced by the question of how much fear we need have of the Pill."

Carl-Christian Kaiser

(Die Zeit, 11 June 1971)

Metalworkers discuss accident prevention at Kassel congress

The figures are alarming — in 1970 alone there were 2.7 million registered industrial accidents or cases of sickness resulting from industrial diseases in the Federal Republic.

Half of the annual figure of 35,000 accidental deaths is taken up by road casualties, a third by accidents in the home and only one sixth by industrial fatalities.

But the ratio is reversed when it comes to injuries. Half a million people are injured on the roads each year compared with five times as many workers who are injured in factories or construction sites or sustain an accident or industrial disease during office work.

The accident dangers — particularly frequent in the metal industry — have changed with technological progress but they have not been reduced.

Previously manual workers might break a bone during their work. Automation has led to a number of complaints that could not be described as industrial diseases in the past.

Insomnia and heart diseases are now common, caused by the higher mental and nervous strain placed upon the worker. But the old accident dangers are still with us.

During the Metalworkers Union congress in Kassel, Olaf Radke, a member of the executive, said that he welcomed accident prevention laws in principle but criticised the fact that safety regulations were only tightened up when industrial accidents had shown that too much attention had gone into economic aspects and not enough into accident prevention when planning and constructing a machine.

The law, he said, was based on the "technically normal" condition of a machine though this unfortunately could only be ascertained after a variety of accidents had occured.

It was highly unsatisfactory, he added, that workers always had to act as guinea-pigs when new machinery was put into service. The trade unions therefore demanded that machinery should take more account of the men who are to use it.

The Metalworkers Union believes that safety and accident prevention still do not loom very large in the minds of some employers.

It therefore made the demand that firms with a low accident rate and high expenditure on accident prevention should not have to pay such a high insurance premium. The money could be made up by demanding more insurance from firms who do little toward accident prevention.

But there was more than just criticism of the law and a number of employers at the Kassel congress. There was also self-criticism.

It was stated for instance that workers still did not see safety and accident prevention as a serious enough issue. There were still too many workers who ignored safety regulations and did not wear the protective helmets or glasses demanded.

One admirable proposal was to scrap the fixed danger money and instead to grant a bonus to those workers who abided by the prescribed safety regulations.

Works councils must in future help in determining the cause of an accident. Paragraph 58 of the law govering industrial relations prescribes that no investigation into an accident should take place without the works council.

The trade unions do not see why accident statistics are treated as if they were industrial secrets — partly on account of advertising and the feared doubts of consumers about a slogan's power of conviction.

The Metalworkers Union safety congress therefore demanded that every factory should publish its accident statistics.

(Handelsblatt, 11 June 1971)

New women's pen[sion] scheme propose[d]

Gerd Muhr, deputy chairma[n of the] Trade Union Confedera[tion, de]manded at a Women's Congress [...] organised by the DGB that every[...] should be entitled to a pension.

Only then, he said, could a [...] appropriate to women's changed [...] in society be found. Muhr out[lined a] four-point programme for an inde[pendent] women's old age security system.

1. Training and work before [...] marriage would normally entitle [...] pension.

2. On marriage both partners sh[ould be] treated as a unit. The pension acuired during marriage should be [...]ed equally to both partners and [...] on separate accounts.

3. While children are being b[rought up] (until the age of six) a parent bei[ng ...] the child will not be expected to [...] This period must be treated as [...] parent were engaged in an occ[upation] demanding insurance contribution[s ...] government will pay these contri[butions] when easing a family's tax bur[den ...] vices rendered for the conti[nued exis]tence of society would thus be [...]ed.

4. During periods in which one p[artner] is unemployed and is not receiving [...] to a certain age, the other marital p[artner] must pay an additional compulsory [con]tribution for old age insurance. This would probably be based on a [...] total income of 150 per cent of [...] working partner's salary.

Muhr admitted that the treatme[nt of] women who had no children to rai[se and] who did not go to work would give [...] a lot of discussion.

The unions believed that it was [...] pay the price of greater social secu[rity ...] the long run the eighteen per [...] contributions percentage was not [...]manent fixture, he said.

(Die Welt, 14 Jun[e ...])

One in seven wom[en] contented with her job

Sixty-eight per cent of all [...] working women in the Fede[ral Re]public are satisfied with their job [...] 32 per cent would prefer to be [a] housewife.

This was the finding of a [...] Institute poll recently conducted [through]out the Federal Republic.

Of the married women who were [...] work 47 per cent would prefer to [...] job while 53 per cent find it best [...] just a housewife.

The survey asked both working [...] and housewives the question: "If you [...] a choice, would you prefer to b[e a] housewife or have a job?"

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 8 June [...])

MASS MEDIA

Viewer discontent increases — but are the television companies totally to blame?

[P]eople are growing discontented about [t]elevision and they are not just [gru]mbling for the sake of grumbling. One [...]of the growing criticism of television [...] the number of viewer associations set [up] in recent months.

[B]ut their discontent is also expressed in [lett]ers or telephone calls. What is behind [this] trend and how important is it?

Television has passed the stage of [infa]ncy. Now, at the beginning of the [seve]nties, it is standing at a cross-roads, as discussions on its position, organisation [an]d role in society show.

These discussions are taking place within the broadcasting companies themselves, among the politically-interested public and among viewers.

The discussions about television are on the one hand part of a general unrest concerning social institutions and groups [in] our society. They are based in those changed social conditions which are summed up by the popular term "pluralistic society".

On the other hand the discussions have also been prompted by new media expected to put in an appearance during the next ten years (the film cassette for instance) and the expected expansion of programme availability through satellite television, piped television and giga-Hertz frequencies.

All this must be seen as the background to criticism of television both inside and outside the medium. The much (too much) publicised viewer associations may appear dubious as regards their social beliefs and their understanding of the role [of] television but this is no reason for the television companies to dismiss demands for viewer participation in programme compiling as ideologically suspect.

It is certainly not worth paying serious attention to the ideas of these groups — they are often utopian — but importance must be attached to the fact that television obviously fails to cater for specific group interests and needs.

It is an interesting fact that no other media has spent so much time and money [i]n recent years in order to find out what viewers think. Public opinion polls have been used, viewers' letters have been systematically examined and newspaper critics have been consulted.

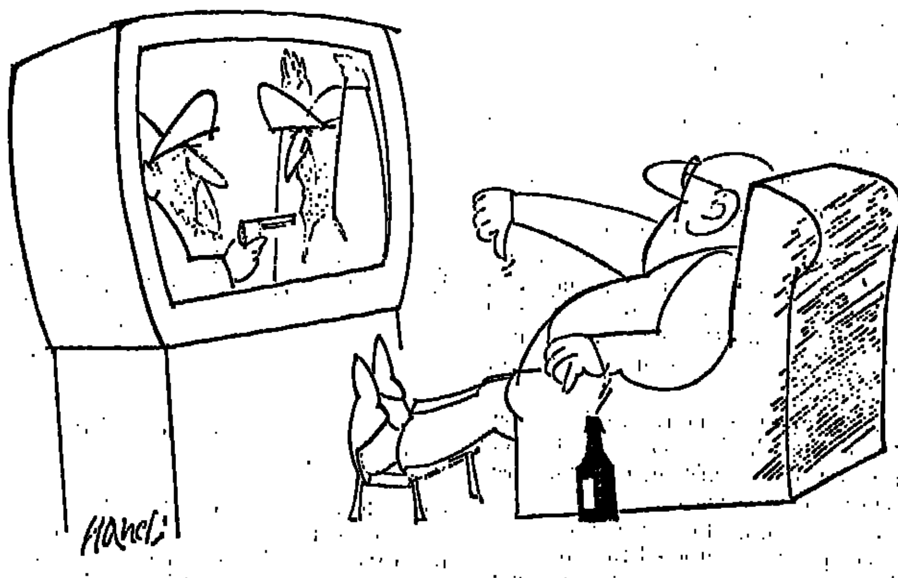
But what can be done? Priority must be given to making viewers understand the role and aims of television. This is particularly true for what the companies aim at with their programmes and the conditions under which they have to work.

So far moves in this direction have been only modest and only moderately sucessful. A broadcasting system will present a portrait of itself in a special broadcast, explaining the way it works and giving viewers information on the way that programmes are compiled. In other cases there is inter-medial criticism where the [rad]io may help out.

Over and above these experiments, there is the idea of speaking with viewers [in] a television programme, perhaps by setting up a viewers' forum. The one-way traffic between transmitter and receiver would then be enlivened by an occasional dialogue.

In this way the reverse traffic between letter-writing or telephoning viewers and [the] companies could be made public. The [pri]vate dialogue would thus become a [gen]eral public discussion.

ORTF, the French broadcasting service, [has] televised a programme called *Face au public* since February. One a month this [h]our-long live television show gives viewers and listeners from all over France a chance to speak with ORTF officials.



(Cartoon: Hanel/Publik)

Twice a month soirées are held in two towns and listeners and viewers are able to express their opinions and complaints.

A regional committee, consisting mainly of journalists, then choose about ten of the candidates and the views they express are sent on to Paris for examination.

After a complicated selection procedure six to eight viewers and listeners are allowed to air their grievances over the air with ORTF representatives.

It would be good to find out what experiences ORTF has had with the programme. Experiments like this could help place the relationship between viewer and medium on a more rational footing. That is one shortcoming of the television companies at present.

Finally a question to the viewer, though not one that is meant to cover up the failings of television: Is the discontent felt by the viewer at television also discontent at his own television habits? Should the viewer lay his discontent on his own doorstep and not on that of the television companies?

When questioning television today, there must also be a critical examination of viewing habits and special attention must be paid to the amount of time spent watching television and the type of programme viewed.

A basic pre-condition of viewer emancipation is selective and conscious use of the medium. It is therefore to be hoped that by the eighties there will be a "new" television service and a "new" type of viewer to go with it.

Dieter Stolte

(Publik, 11 June 1971)

Film library congress in Wiesbaden

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

The 27th Annual Congress of the Fédération Internationale des Archives de Films (FIAF) re-elected Professor Jerzy Toeplitz of Warsaw as president for a further twelve months.

During the course of their five-day congress in Wiesbaden, the 56 delegates representing 34 film libraries in 26 countries also passed a number of resolutions on the organisation of an interantional film archive library.

Professor Toeplitz announced at a press conference that the Danish Film Museum based in Copenhagen would work together with twenty other film archives in drawing up an index from 57 film journals. An American publishing concern would then publish the articles in book form.

The congress also decided to issue a second handbook to help new film archives in building up a documentary collection. The advice to be contained in the book will go right into the technical details. The first handbook deals with the preservation of films.

It was also announced that a handbook was in preparation for the next congress to be held in Bucharest at the end of May 1972. The book, dealing with colour films, is being drawn up by the East Berlin film library.

Ulrich Pöschke, a member of the executive of this country's Institut für Filmkunde, announced that there had been no real progress in talks with the education ministers about setting up a film archives for the Federal Republic.

The Education Ministers Conference had so far only approved in principle the establishment of a West German film library be added.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 11 June 1971)

An examination of this country's press freedoms

Discussions about the freedom of the press in Germany have lasted, with varying intensity, for at least two hundred years.

In 1774 Schubart wrote in his *German Chronicle*: "We Germans have no such candid writers as the British! — Believe me, there is hunger, shame and public disgrace in store for anyone who dares to write freely."

In his work on the press as a social and constitutional institution Dieter Stammler shows how the freedom of the press can be impaired by concentration and mergers in a time when there is no despotic rule.

Stammler makes it plain that freedom of the press can no longer be understood as the right of the individual to express his own opinion through the medium of the press, as it was in the Liberal age.

With a change in the social structure, the mass circulation press developing in the capitalist era led to a change in its role that is now shown in the interpretation of the freedom of opinion.

Journalists still have the right to express their opinions freely but the public now has a right to be informed. The press today also performs the function of a service industry necessary for the basic libertarian, democratic order.

Working on this principle, the author comes to the conclusion that the press freedom understood as an individual right by nineteenth century liberalism was only a freedom of the publisher. A right to intellectual freedom became a type of right of property and profession.

As continually increasing costs force a concentration of the press, the freedom of the press, fought for at great personal risk by the apostles of enlightenment, is no more than the personal privilege of a few rich people.

The press is therefore in a similar position as it was at the beginning. Up to the mid-nineteenth century publishers had to buy their privileges from the princes. And only the richest, such as Cotta, could afford it.

That is the reason why the author expresses his basic objections towards the system of free enterprise and competition within the press of today as the interest in a democratic process of communica[tion] through the medium of the press should also decree the staff of newspapers the right to print what they want.

It is only this internal freedom of the press that would help the press fulfil its public duty to provide objective, truthful and complete information.

But it could clash with the private and commercial interests of the publisher — if only because of his consideration of what his advertisers would think.

Dieter Stammler: The Press as a Social and Constitutional Institution. A Study of Press Freedom in Basic Law. Schriften zum Öffentlichen Recht, volume 145. Published by Duncker and Humboldt Verlag, Berlin, 1972, 374 pages, 68.80 Marks.

Free enterprise also means an end to the plurality of opinions in the press as it demands concentration.

Stammler therefore suggests that the organisation of public information should be understood as a vital communal function and that the newspaper concerns of the future should be released from their private and commercial ties.

His alternative to the present press system centred on the ideals of free enterprise is a publicly-owned body, self-administered, with a pluralistic structure and subject to State supervision.

The press would be similar in structure the radio and television companies. Only thus, Stammler concludes, could the press's problem of communication as a public duty be overcome.

Stammler's work has been submitted to Tübingen University's Faculty of Law as a dissertation. There can be no doubt that the author has provided an important contribution to a highly relevant problem.

As his theories are based on a profound knowledge of the history of the German press during the past two hundred years, his work is a significant contribution to discussions on the press as a public service.

Karlheinz Fuchs

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 14 June 1971)

■ THINGS SEEN

Six Rhine-Ruhr towns co-operate to produce *Urbs 71*



Wuppertal has staged *Urbs 71*, a 700,000 Mark festival with the aim of presenting progressive art in a concentrated form for one whole week. The festival was a "cultural initiative" by the neighbouring towns of Bochum, Cologne, Dortmund, Krefeld, Oberhausen and Wuppertal.

Urbs 71 was not designed to be just a six-city cultural show. Visitors were urged to join in and take part, doing as the artists do, thinking as the artists think.

The event was opened with pop music from a tape recorder and a pump providing draught beer. But for anyone who tends to think in present-day artistic clichés this event could not have been a tremendous attraction.

Wuppertal's employers came out in protest against *Urbs 71* even before it had opened, because in their opinion it contained decidedly anti-management traits and a number of events on the theme of "labour and society" came out with militant slogans aimed at apprentices, women workers and foreign workers.

Several local politicians have taken the same line, fearing that the reputation of the town will be damaged because, for instance, filmed contributions to *Urbs 71* from Oberhausen contain a strong leftist element.

The films commissioned by the Deutsche Akademie für Film und Fernsehen (German film and television academy) *Die Frau am Arbeitsplatz* (Women at work), *Die Lehrlinge* (The apprentices), *Erziehung* (Education), *Mieten und Wohnen* (Rents and accommodation), were, according to the guiding light of *Urbs*, the Wuppertal artistic adviser Dr Klaus Revermann, "guilty of betraying a very coloured point of view".

The point of view was Marxist-Leninist and therefore the films "badly need to be accompanied by open discussion".

Polit-pop-music, cabarets, open theatre and the test of new big city songs were also grounds for starting discussions. *Floh de Cologne* and *Die Machtwächter* have not been slow in coming forth with agitation.

Also from Cologne is a working group of students who have set up an adventure playground for children, on which new games will be invented.

Creations from the recent and not-so-recent past were retrieved from the River Wupper in an angling competition. Taking rusted bicycles and superannuated gamps as examples, an exchange of ideas on the theme of pollution of the environment followed this angling competition.

Nor was there a lack of initiatives for bringing art and the world of the artist to the people. The programmes listed two hundred events including play premieres put on by companies from the various participant towns as well as ballets and concerts.

If you want to know what *Urbs 71* set out to avoid being you can read it up in a special "Urbs Express" published for this culture festival. It wanted to be neither an "artistic piece of violence à la street-art in Hanover" nor an "art-market à la Cologne" nor an "*in event à la experimenta*", nor even a "Woodstock", nor an Oberhausen-festival.

According to the organisers *Urbs* was meant to be an attempt by six towns to overcome parochial ideas and local patriotic rivalries and to demonstrate the artistic potential of the Rhine/Ruhr area in all its widely differing aspects.



Eva Appli's *Four Widows* and Mario Carole's *Butterflies* shown at Urbs 71 in Wuppertal. (Photo: ...)

If this experiment is successful it will be repeated every other year in alternating towns. In fact the six originators hope that other towns will join in.

Cooperation is the key word for the initiators. This cooperation is designed to enable the city fathers of Bochum, Cologne, Dortmund, Krefeld, Oberhausen and Wuppertal to undertake reappraisals when working out their budgeting for the arts.

And the organisers of *Urbs 71* have other aims in mind on the artistic policies horizon. For instance they want to cut down the number of opera houses in this country. Their argument is that there are eight opera houses in the Dortmund-Krefeld-Cologne area, each no more than thirty kilometres from the next.

This is not an optimum state of affairs. With a cooperative move costs could be spared and quantity would give way to quality. The money thus saved, organisers claim, could be spent on productive cultural ventures such as colleges and libraries.

Time will tell whether this cultural event will really succeed in bringing art to the masses.

While the contribution of the Austrian Peter Turrini, *Rozzenjagd* (Rat hunt), met with enthusiasm from a predominantly young audience at its German premiere the overall response to *Urbs 71* was variable.

Dr Klaus Revermann, Wuppertal's adviser, was optimistic about the event. He said: "We will carry on as pragmatically as possible. If we see that we are hitting home and people are saying 'a load of bull' there will be no more (?)"

Rosemarie Callsen
(Die Zeit, 11 June ...)

Islamic art on exhibition at new Dahlem museum

A new museum for Islamic art has been opened in West Berlin and is the most important of its kind in this country. Pride of place in its collection is a polo flask from Syria in fine matt glass, beautifully decorated with turban-wearing polo players.

This flask dates from the thirteenth century. Close by there is on show a prayer niche with two inscribed friezes from Persia in the first half of the sixteenth century – smooth, glassy porcelain mosaics with texts from the Koran.

The new museum is in an extension of the famous Dahlem Museum in a building that has no windows. There are a total of 638 objects on exhibition, some in glass cases, others on open show.

The lighting is subtle and does justice to all the impressive Islamic exhibits. The large room is divided up by carpets hanging freely from the ceiling attached to a steel construction held taut by canvas.

These old Persian carpets with their beautiful glowing colours give the museum a rare atmosphere of peace and at the same time gaiety.

In all twenty-two Oriental carpets are on exhibition including a "garden carpet", a kind of artificial garden for the winter months, which is nearly nine metres long and was made in Persia in the eighteenth century.

A "Polish" carpet is another of the exhibits. This is in silk with gold and silver needlework and comes from the manufacturer appointed to the Shah in the seventeenth century. The flagstones in front of the castle, laid by the Mongolian overlords in thirteenth-century Persia are remarkable.

Among the more outstanding smaller exhibits at the Dahlem Museum are the astrological discs, facade coverings and a hand-warmer in the shape of a sphere made by Moslem craftsmen in the fifteenth century in Venice.

Visitors to the museum are shown the role of Arabic script and for this purpose gravestones and royal and religious textiles were acquired to make the function of Arabic script comprehensible. It is similar to that of Latin in mediaeval Europe.

One excellent example of this is a Turkish Koran with seven illuminated pages and very costly binding. On the walls, reminiscent of Far Eastern scrolls, there are Tugren, an Ottoman Sultan's deed of gift.

In addition there has been an attempt in Dahlem to correct the common idea that the Islamic religion does not permit portraiture. This only applied to commoners and was by no means always heeded in royal and religious art.

Interesting examples of this include a miniature from a Persian history of the Universe, which portrays the Prophet himself together with his son-in-law removing heathen sculptures from ...

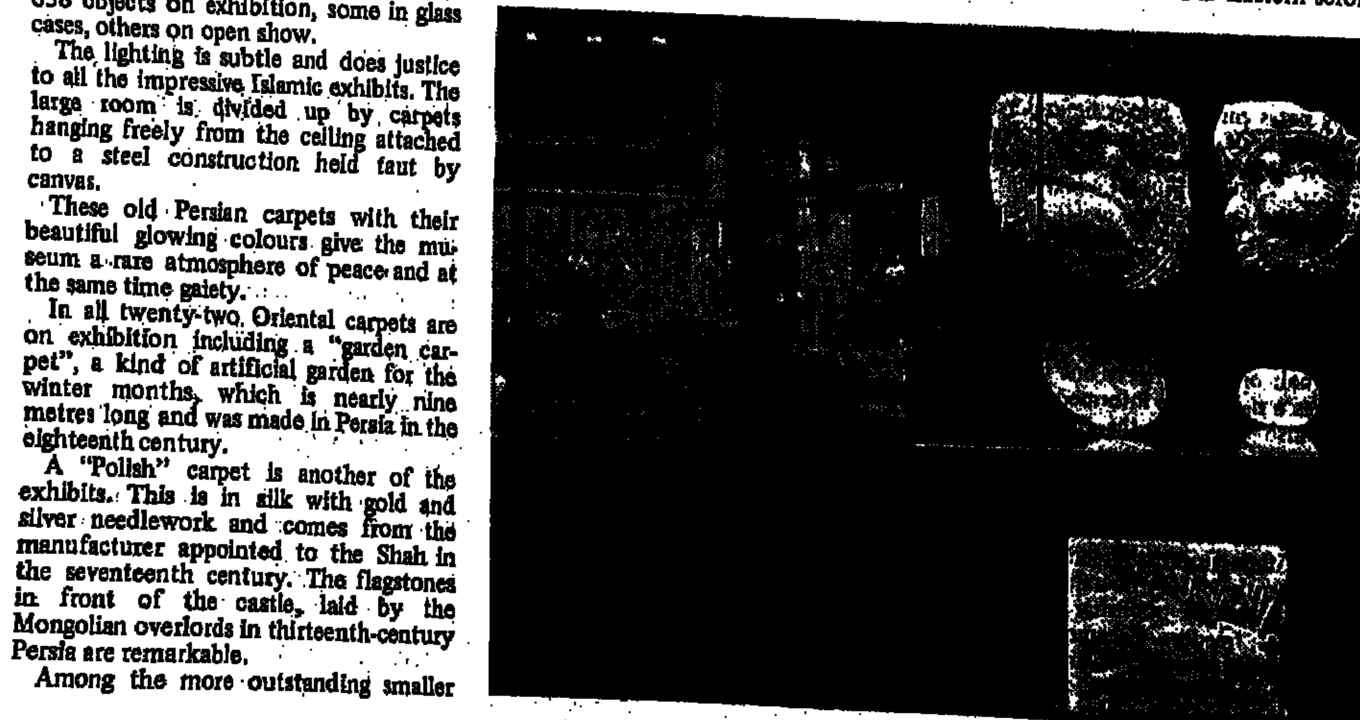
The old museum of Islamic art that was opened in Berlin in 1904 was the most important of its kind outside the Islamic world. The War caused losses and the ... collection of invaluable carpets ... destroyed by fire. Then, after the ... the collection was split up. The exhibits belonged to the Prussian Artistic Possessions, but after the division of the ... this collection lost its foremost ...

But now the new museum has ... some wonderful specimens on the principle of "rather one magnificent ... every year than several goodish ones" ... has worked its way up to third position in the non-Islamic world behind the Metropolitan Museum and the British Museum.

Eighteen museum curators from the Arab world from as far apart as ... and Pakistan were invited to the opening of the new Dahlem museum, which was also attended by the Minister of the Interior, Hans Dietrich Genscher.

The artistic work that the officials ...

Continued on page 7



The interior of the museum for Islamic art in West Berlin (Photo: Reinhard Fri...)

MODERN WRITING

Comparative study of literature and theatre in West and East

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

Two German States – two German literatures? This question was discussed at a meeting called by the Protestant Academy of Kurhessen-Waldeck in Hofgeismar.

In front of a mainly young audience, ... publicist Manfred Jäger answered the question in the affirmative in his lecture on the opportunities and limitations of socially-critical literature in the two parts of Germany.

Of course it is not really possible to measure the actual changes in society achieved through the medium of literature. But the possibility remains to plumb the self-awareness of authors and their points of view on the function of literature. An analysis of this kind shows a clearly marked discrepancy between authors east and west of the demarcation line.

In West German literary circles complaints about the inconsequential nature of literature have lately become a central theme. The old idealistic thesis that the mind is in the long run stronger than physical power has been shown the door.

Middle-class writers in the Federal Republic have largely knuckled under to a hangover and have in part once again declared literature dead. An insight into this was given by Arnfrid Astel in his epigram:

"*Ich schreibe. Aber der,*
Gegen den ich schreibe,
Kann nicht lesen."

(I write, but the person I am writing against cannot read.)

Writers in the German Democratic Republic, on the other hand, have the choice of making their writings toe the State, Party and society lines or taking up a stand against official art policies in which they would be attacked and still consider themselves to be taken seriously.

At any rate authors in the German Democratic Republic can count on their works getting a response. Their shots never miss the target completely. Nevertheless in the GDR, too, changes to social conditions are not prompted by literature. Aspects of a social order which do not seem certain to have the total approval of the authorities simply confirm by their repressive nature the power that is entrusted to the intellectuals.

But this is far more a proof of the subjective weakness of the powers-that-be than of the real power of literati.

In Hofgeismar Manfred Jäger summed up by saying that intellectuals only had a slight influence. They could not create the conditions required for changes. And yet, he claimed, they should sniff out these requirements, express them and make them generally known. Their job was to carry out a Utopian advance movement in the direction of change and to express specific criticism of the here-and-now.

Heinz Klunker, who like Jäger has been following the developments of policies towards the arts in the GDR attentively, spoke of modern socialist drama.

By socialist drama Klunker did not mean plays that toed the party line obsequiously and which are put on across the Wall at great expense and with little response from the theatre-going public.

He was far more concerned with plays written by those socialists who were not out to draw a veil across the problems of a socialist society but who wanted to voice such problems. These plays are rarely put on in the German Democratic Republic and only appear in print since the Party and the State fight shy of public discussions of problems of this kind.

Examples of such "drama on the declivity" are Peter Hacks' *Moritz Tassow*, Heiner Müller's *Der Bau* and Volker Braun's *Ballade vom Kipper Paul Bausch*. The methods of arguing with these in the GDR are exemplary and are carried out above all by drama experts and critics. The main debate is on the tensions created by the demands of Utopian socialism and the fact of restricted reality.

Then Manfred Jäger analysed the role of humour and satire in GDR political cabaret, taking as his example theoretical texts and passages from the scripts of the Distel in East Berlin and the Pfeffermühle in Leipzig.

Since the formation of the first political cabaret in the GDR in 1953 the amount of freedom allowed these stages has grown. What has remained is the tension between the officially desirable didactic aims and the clamour of the audience to be entertained. What has also remained is the problem of differentiating between "false" and "correct" laughter, that is to say between satire with a stabilising effect which only attacks individual abuses and that satire which might undermine the whole system or the leading lights of the system at the time.

Cabaret satirists in the GDR, who consider themselves socialists, justify their existence as the bad conscience of a good system. The brighter bureaucrats in the GDR recognised long since that satire and particularly harmless apolitical satire can bolster the system.

Other bureaucrats and control commissions responsible for approving cabaret programmes are still highly distrustful of the privileged classes of the cabaret who are paid to utter in public things that might have a detrimental effect on the way of thinking of other citizens.

Erhard Kauthmann
(Der Tagesspiegel, 3 June 1971)

Mainz art fare!

Mainz is organising an art exhibition in a tram! Passengers boarding a route 11 tramcar will be able to view ten pictures by the Mainz art student Reiner Zimmermann, who received the 1971 Mainz art-promotion prize worth 3,000 Marks.

According to a spokesman for the city council the idea for this unusual "gallery" came from the city's deputy press officer, Eberhard Güth.

His idea was to make art accessible to people who would never dream of going into an art gallery.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 10 June 1971)

Continued from page 6

this museum have carried out should be of political as well as cultural value in the light of the rather strained relations between the Federal Republic and several Arab countries.

The President of the Prussian Artistic Possessions Foundation, Herr Wormit, pointed out at a preview that there would not be so much money available for the museum as hoped because fifty per cent of its budget is being provided by the Bonn government which is making economies.

Herr Wätzoldt, Director General of the State Museums, spoke of a "fight for existence being waged by cultural institutions with ever increasing vehemence".

He presented the results of a survey conducted in Cologne which showed that eight per cent of the population said that they had been to a museum at least once.

Since 1966 attendances at museums have been increasing by at least six per cent every year. Thus, Herr Wätzoldt said, museums are becoming more popular, unlike the theatre for example.

Liselotte Müller
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 10 June 1971)

Claus von Dohnanyi (left), State Secretary at the Ministry of Education, Dieter Lattmann, chairman of the Writers' Association and artist HAP Grieshaber, discussing the problems of the artist in contemporary society at Frankfurt's Paulskirche. (Photo: dpa)

Artists plan to form a union and join the DGB

The four hundred creative artists who met recently in Frankfurt for their first working rendezvous have negotiated the most difficult hurdle on the way towards setting up a union-style organisation at the first attempt.

There was more than a two-thirds majority vote in favour of joining a union, but it has not yet been finally decided whether the approximately ten thousand organised painters, sculptors and graphic artists in the Federal Republic and the unknown number of outstanding frelance artists will join the already existing unions, the artists' union or the printing and paper union or whether they will possibly set up a *seventeenth pillar in* the Confederation of Federal Republic Trades Unions structure in the form of an *IG Kultur* (culture union).

But it was decided in Frankfurt that when the final decision is made it will be taken in conjunction with the "pacemaker" in this sector, the Authors' Federation (VS).

The literati had decided at their previous congress in Stuttgart in favour of a scheme put forward by Martin Walser that they should join forces with the Confederation of Federal Republic Trades Unions (DGB).

Creative artists, hot on the heels of their union-loving colleagues in belles lettres, plan at the outset to reorganise their loose "Confederation of Federal state professional associations of creative artists" into an active association of members.

By the autumn of this year at the meeting of the umbrella group in Kaub on the Rhine corresponding steps will have been taken.

Apart from the ticklish problem of union business the artists who met in Frankfurt and who were little experienced in holding congresses of this kind had to deal with a veritable mountain of material. This was tackled at the outset by a concerted attack in four working groups, and long-winded plenary talks finally got to grips with it.

From the point of view of the social services the participants in the congress decided on a welfare fund for old and sick artists. The organisers of the meeting had hoped that there would be a quorum of one thousand artists, but this figure was not reached and there were not so many prominent artists in their ranks as had been hoped, either.

These artists, who are to a certain extent fighting for their existence, would like to see a share of those tax monies flowing into this social welfare fund which come from the almost unfathomable art market by way of sales, re-sales and reproductions.

In addition to this the artists meeting in St. Paul's Church and the Gewerkschaftshaus in Frankfurt called on various organisations to raise their logical share to a minimum of five per cent, as well as demanding that State building schemes and subsidised accomodation should provide them with more studios and workshops than in the past.

Another demand made by the artists was that they should be exempted from turnover tax. And finally they stated that the taxman should accept the special professional conditions of freelance creative artists and take account of these when levying taxes.

In the far-reaching catalogue of demands made by the creative artists and ratified for publication by them at the end of the three-day conference there is further talk of "democratisation at all levels of policy-making with regard to the arts".

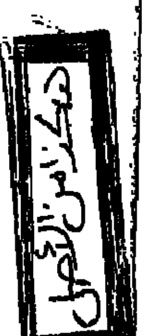
In more specific terms what the artists are demanding is total autonomy in administering their artistic production and their instruments of mediation.

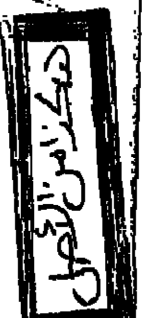
In the end the private art market would lose its sole rights by means of cooperative linkups and the setting up of production workshops and distribution channels.

Participation in all spheres of national education and a reappraisal of the professional image of the artist can, the Frankfurt congress hopes, get rid of the "underprivileged position in society that the artist holds".

After three days the participants at the conference on the Rhine had become quite agile in their rhetoric. They concluded that when their aims as expressed in Frankfurt have been achieved they can carry out their duty to art and to society in the proper manner.

Albert Bechthold
(Kieler Nachrichten, 8 June 1971)





■ EDUCATION

Homework help scheme slowly catches on

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Hildegard Hamm-Brücher, State Secretary in the Education and Science Ministry, recently held a press conference in which she spoke of the success of a "Homework Help for Foreign Children" campaign begun last autumn as part of International Education Year.

She also introduced a new pamphlet entitled "Guidelines for Tomorrow's Homework Helpers".

A survey conducted among 24,000 elementary schools at the end of last year was meant to show the extent of the response to the call for help for the children of foreign workers and the degree to which the campaign had reached public attention.

Only three thousand of the schools replied. These schools taught 33,000 foreign children, about a third of all foreign children being taught in West German schools.

Fifty-two per cent of the schools replying claimed to have heard of the campaign but only one school in four had actively supported it with placards and pamphlets calling for homework help.

Information about various types of homework help was supplied by 940 schools. At the time of the survey some 3,700 foreign children were being helped in this way with their school work.

Six months previously – before the start of the campaign – the number of foreign children being helped stood at 1,400, so it can be assumed that during the course of the campaign the number of children receiving help almost tripled.

Parents of West German schoolchildren head the list of helpers, taking care of a third of the foreign children. They are followed by the schoolchildren themselves and students who help a quarter of the children.

The schools' information on the introductory classes preparing foreign children for German classes was also analysed. It was found that only 220 of the three thousand schools replying had introductory classes for their Italian, Spanish or Yugoslav children.

At the other schools the foreign children had to attend German classes where they found it even more difficult to keep up with their lessons. Of the 33,000 foreign schoolchildren covered by the survey only 32 per cent were attending introductory classes.

All these results show that one campaign alone will not be enough to create better conditions for the children of foreign workers in this country. But even within the framework of the International Education Year nothing more than a stimulus could have been expected.

If help – including financial aid – does not come from the ministries, education authorities and school directorates, the start made to improve the educational position of several thousand foreign children will soon be bogged down.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 4 June 1971)

Bonn financially aids thirty student organisations



The government believes it is still necessary to allocate student associations money from public sources. At present a total of thirty associations are being government financed.

This was the reply given by the government to a motion by the Christian Socialists dealing mainly with the financial backing given to the Social Democratic University Association (SHB), the Liberal Student Association (LSD) and the VDS students union.

This year the SHB is to receive about 96,000 Marks, The VDS will not be financed as the government does not believe that its aims are worthy of government support. The LSD has not applied for funds for 1971.

In its motion the Opposition doubted whether the SHB, LSD and VDS offered the guarantee of work conforming to the aims of Basic Law.

The government announced that about 1.19 million Marks had been set aside in the 1971 Budget for student organisations.

(Die Welt, 2 June 1971)

Education must ha[...] priority, Vetter o[...] DGB demands

General education and career [...] should be placed on the [...] footing imaginable and have prior[...] other spheres, Hans-Oskar Vett[...] Chairman of the Trades Union Co[...]tion, told the Federal congress [...] Education and Science Union me[...] Kiel.

He added that an appropriate [...] of the gross social product sh[...] devoted to the educational sp[...] respective of economic priorities.

Vetter criticises the fact that [...] was still largely concentrated [...] labuses whose importance in late[...] doubtful.

He said he thought that not [...] attention was devoted to ec[...] sociology, politics and the awake[...] democratic consciousness.

Vetter strongly recommended [...] present system where schools op[...] in the morning should be replaced [...] where the schools were open all d[...]

Comprehensive schooling sho[...] be adopted to help create equ[...] educational opportunities and o[...] the bias against working-class chil[...] said.

The Board for Career Training [...] financed by top industrial organi[...] mentioned the importance of edu[...] and psychological steps in the pre[...] sphere in overcoming social diff[...]

The Board added that private [...] must be given the same financial [...]tunities as public bodies. Refer[...] comprehensive schooling, the Bo[...]ted that experiences at home and [...] must first be awaited and then cri[...] examined before any further steps [...] taken.

(Handelsblatt, [...])

■ HEALTH

Drug wave in Europe shows no sign of ceasing

It is wrong to view drug addiction as an isolated social problem – it must always be seen as a trinity of personality, drug and society.

Along with a person's susceptibility come the social and family reasons for drug abuse. It is often just some little thing that sets a person off. During the initial period of drug-taking the drug taken depends on the question of supply.

These were the basic points in a report on "Drug Abuse and Addiction in Switzerland" by the Swiss psychiatrist Professor Kielholz of Basle. He was speaking at a medical congress in Berlin.

Switzerland was affected by the present drug wave before the Federal Republic and has more experience with the problems of drug addiction thanks to the important work of the Basle psychiatric school and the small area of the country.

Speaking of a person's susceptibility to drug-taking, Professor Kielholz pointed out that the personality structure of young people was always practically the same.

A great majority of young addicts are oversensitive, reserved and usually spoilt. Up to sixty per cent are extremely moody, inhibited, insecure or feel inadequate in some way.

They have no aims in life. There ist a wide gap between ability and desire. The lack of a fixed way of life and a need to work leads to tensions that the young try to escape.

The reason why people take drugs has nothing to do with the desire for bliss or euphoria but it is the desire for an end to their emotional tension.

The tragic thing about it is, Professor Kielholz stated, the fact that the way to supposed freedom always ended in complete dependence on the drug.

Fortunately, he said, some eighty per cent of all young people give up drugs after taking them only once because of unpleasant side-effects such as dizziness, biliousness or vomiting. Only if a person gets high will he continue to take drugs.

There are four stages to the escalation of drug-taking. During the first stage a variety of drugs is tried. Eighty per cent of drug consumption in the second stage is hashish.

In the third stage hashish is mixed with LSD or amphetamines. In the fourth stage the amphetamine dose is quickly increased. The period elapsing between injections becomes shorter and serious side-effects occur.

Serum hepatatis is common along with thrombophlebitis. The first complaint is a liver inflammation caused by dirty syringe needles while the latter is an inflammation of the walls of a vein resulting in constricted vessels.

As long as young people take hash in groups they cannot be considered addicts. Addiction – mental dependence, the inability to stop taking a drug – does not normally start until a person begins to take his favourite drug while on his own.

In a report for the European Council Professor Kielholz listed current trends but stated that these were only valid for Switzerland.

Addiction normally afflicted the younger age-groups, the report stated. It has spread from students to the working youth and a larger proportion of women are now to be found among addicts.

Finally it is getting more and more common to find a number of drugs, sometimes as many as six, being taken at once. At the same time there has been an alarming rise in alcoholism. The old belief that hashish had banished alcoholism has thus been refuted.

The drug-taking trend has not yet reached its climax. To fight it effectively, Professor Kielholz demanded investigations at an international level and more information about the inner laws of the European drug wave. All sections of the population must be reached, not just the young.

Group discussions were better than lectures before three thousand doctors in a large hall as was happening in Berlin, the Professor said.

The best method of prevention was a consolidation of family life and close contact with the young. The youth needed new models. Unfortunately Professor Kielholz did not state how this was to be accomplished.

Professor Kielholz also proposed a network of advisory centres. The most important thing was to find a substitute for drugs. Rehabilitating addicts was difficult. As more than half of all addicts took to drugs again after treatment, the Professor considered it irresponsible to dismiss the dangers of drugs, including hashish, as a trifle.

Friedrich Deich

(Die Welt, 4 June 1971)

Travel-sickness pills can be a danger to motorists

Dr Heinz Eberhard Bose of the Lower Saxony Medical Association pointed out in Hanover that the holiday medicine chest carried by many motorists could be a real source of danger.

Dr Bose stated that there is no doubt within the Medical Association that drugs and preparations against travel sickness reduce a driver's reactions considerably.

Drivers should therefore not take any pills against sea-sickness if they plan to continue driving after the ferry has docked.

Bose emphasised that many pill manufacturers would try to eliminate this dangerous effect by adding quantities of caffeine. But they rarely managed to synchronise the effective periods of the two ingredients. The substance guarding against travel sickness often did not begin to work until the effects of the caffeine had worn off.

That was why several airlines had forbidden their pilots to take tablets of this type, Dr Bose added. But drivers suffering from hay fever must also take care.

Medical experience had shown that anti-histamine treatment of this complaint considerably limited a person's ability to drive. Even medicaments meant specifically for drivers increased the risk of an accident if taken before the journey.

The Medical Association also warned against "camouflaged sleeping pills" – so-called tranquillizers containing, however, barbital or phenobarbital.

These two substances are genuine soporifies. Uncontrolled consumption of these "camouflaged sleeping pills" could lead in many cases to an unrecognised state of chronic poisoning.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 5 June 1971)

Students prone to suicide

Between nineteen and twenty out of every hundred thousand people in the country commit suicide. The suicide rate for students is ten times higher.

Jogu, the Mainz university paper, notes *that* suicide is the second most frequent cause of *death* among Mainz students after traffic accidents.

Dr Strecker, the student doctor, reckons half his patients are psychically sick and that one in ten of them are badly in need of treatment.

According to estimates made by Dr Bonn, the university psychologist, five to ten per cent of students need psychiatric treatment.

At the moment three bodies try to help students who have run into psychic trouble. They are now to be combined and the resulting centre for students will, it is hoped, be able to provide specific psychiatric care as soon as the first suicide symptoms make their appearance.

The number of students who visit the centre for advice and assistance increases month by month.

(Welt am Sonntag, 23 May 1971)

Berlin congress discusses abuse of tranquillizers

Doctors attending the twentieth Congress for Further Medical Training in Berlin warned against the widespread misuse of tranquillizers.

Tranquillizers should only be prescribed or taken when there is a real need for them. Unfortunately too many doctors give in to the wishes of their patients and prescribe the tablets when there is no real need. There are few people left now who have never taken a tranquillizer.

Tranquillizers can never replace the necessity of treating existing or supposed mental disorders causing the patient's complaint.

Tranquillizers should never be handed out casually in practice as serious incidents could occur later in hospital when more effective drugs are used during an anaesthetic.

The casual use of tranquillizers is often dangerous as it conceals states of unrest due to serious organic complaints and prevents their diagnosis.

Old people in particular often suffer from states of unrest which must be treated correctly. Tranquillizers can easily lead to unwanted effects here.

Doctors at the congress also expressed their doubts about combinations of tranquillizers and other hormones – a practice that was becoming increasingly common.

Professor H. Kewitz of Berlin, the chairman of the discussion, stated that the frequent use of tranquillizers was due to the fact that rest, calm and, a good night's sleep were essential conditions for the normal functioning of nerves and hormones in the organism.

Treating states of unrest and fear is considered necessary as otherwise they could affect the whole of the organism.

Treating minor mental complaints or insomnia used to be comparatively simple, if not always very effective, as the only available cure apart from valerian and bromide salts was the classical sleeping potion, barbiturates.

As a small quantity of this drug reduces the increased sensitivity of the central nervous system to a normal level, it is also used by day as a sedative.

Now tranquillizers are available as well. They also calm the central nervous system, though without leading to general tiredness or unconsciousness.

Neuroleptica such as megaphon lessen mental tension without influencing a person's state of consciousness. Calming a person in this way helps him to sleep.

Despite intensive research there is not always a lot that can be said of how and where these drugs are effective. Only practical experience can help in determining what drug is to be used and when.

Barbiturates should only be used for a short period to help a patient get over difficulties in sleeping. Lasting treatment leads to addiction to sleeping tablets.

Tranquillizers, the drugs that affect the vegetative nervous system, are not as harmless as is thought. They influence a person's mood and sleeping habits and lead to dependence.

They are dangerous when combined with alcohol and can lead to delirium. This effect of tranquillizers is deliberately exploited by experienced patients to cut down on alcohol and avoid liver damage caused by excessive alcohol consumption.

As neuroleptica do not lead to addiction they can be used in smaller doses as a tranquilliser although their effect, and side-effects, are much more far-reaching. Because of these side-effects, neuroleptica are less suited for the treatment of extreme vegetative disorders.

The discussion showed that although the various drugs often had beneficial effects on a patient inner conflicts could only be overcome by them to a limited extent.

The discussion also showed that a doctor will only be able to use the variety of the drugs at his disposal sensibly if he is adequately informed of the opportunities and limits of courses of treatment involving tranquillizers.

But criticism heard during the discussion seems to suggest that this is lacking as much as the insight of patients.

Rainer Flöhl

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 4 June 1971)

■ THE ECONOMY

Demands for a larger share of the cake cause economic troubles

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Something is wrong with our economy. This is a fact that everyone notices as he goes about his daily business, in the big things and the small, in higher prices and lesser efficiency, in the indifference of people at work and the wool that people are constantly trying to pull over our eyes.

There is always an easy way out and that is the way that is being taken. The motto is *more for less*. This way of thinking prevailed once before and it only missed plunging this country into a crises by a hair's-breadth.

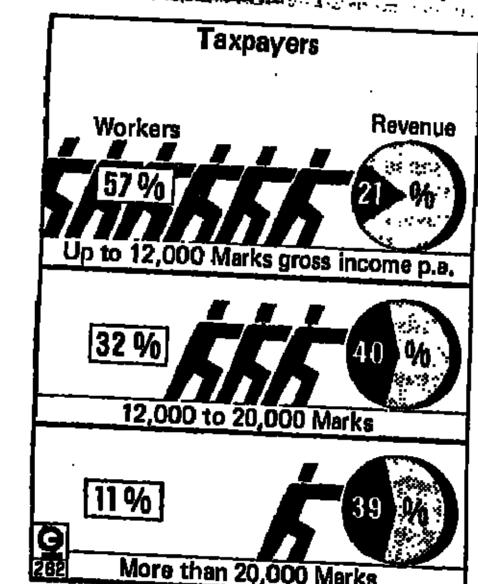
This time we are not merely dealing with silver-lined clouds of economic overactivity, situations vacant by the thousand and monstrous export surpluses.

Nor is the problem solely to do with doubts that are being expressed about the sense of material aims. These doubts can be dispelled easily enough, but then there arises the problem of the flagging gross national product.

The crux of the matter is a harsh, bitter fight affecting not only the Federal Republic, but also other industrial countries about the way the gross national product is divided up.

It is scarcely possible to affect this struggle with industrial economic policies any longer let alone resolve it.

It will have to be borne on the backs of others. Not those of the working population who belong to the minority that is union organised. Nor those on the managerial side who belong to the minority of major companies whose products enjoy a monopoly.



They can escape involvement in costly battles for new pay deals mainly by passing on extra wage costs in the form of higher consumer prices, which is the more comfortable, cheaper way and skates round social welfare policy conflicts.

Wage tariff agreements aiming at grabbing a larger share of the GNP cake lead us closer ever closer to stark irresponsibility and culminate in the victory of those who fight not with arguments but with threats.

Therefore we must get away from this line of thinking, since the most suitable method of bringing about a fairer division of the gross national product is not a wages policy but a fiscal policy.

Discussions about tax reform are due to enter a critical stage in the autumn and will have to come up with the correct answer to the question of how the gross national product should be divided up.

Inflation brought about by a period of hectic, booming economic activity does not lead the mass of wage earners to greater prosperity, but rather to misery.

If this development were allowed to continue the whole inflationary process would speed up, and, what is more, progressively, so that in the near future five to ten per cent increases in costs and earnings would be considered stability, and in the distant future a few superfluous noughts would have to be chopped off. What would we have gained from this? And more important, *who* would have gained?

The question remains, would all industrial economic policy weapons continue to be ineffective if the Bonn government and the Bundesbank, who are responsible for the value of money, lost all their power to both sides of industry, employers by virtue of overflowing order books, employees by virtue of the fact that the labour market was exhausted?

This is how it looks at present. Keynes, on whose theories we have stocked up our economic armoury with such vital weapons as the economic stabilisation legislation, seems doomed to failure.

The Bundesbank's efforts to cut down the amount of cash in circulation with a credit squeeze gets nowhere, because the exchange rates of currencies are firmly fixed but their values are freely convertible, and what is more all money and capital markets have been liberalised. This is the plight of the Bank of Issue.

And this is the plight of the Finance Minister: the anti-cyclical finance policy cannot function if the structure of public expenditure has been fixed by legal ties to most outgoing monies on the one hand, and reforms and the desire to reform on the other hand.

Keynes knew nothing of this. We know all about it. Are we drawing the consequences from it?

Until yesterday we were not. But since inflation is a fraud against the people and puts money in the pockets of a minority we will not be able to accept that we are powerless to do anything about it.

Those who will not accept this must make both sides of industry realise that they cannot demand everything and grab everything. We should not rely on insight alone. Employers are, after all, thinking of business, the trade unions, which are financed by members' contributions, are thinking only of wages.

When there is a superboom with practically no competitiveness and over-employment, with only 0.7 per cent of the working population unemployed and two million foreign workers in the country this way of thinking will not change.

Franz Josef Strauss is not so far wrong when he says that wages and prices can only be stabilised by a policy that takes us right to the edge of recession – but we must not plunge right into recession.

But even in the 1967 recession when the unemployment figure was three per cent we did not suffer from true unemployment; in fact by international standards that was still full employment.

But economic policies should not be made using unemployment as their tool – this would be despicable. On the other hand nobody should believe that over-employment and stability are, nor can be made, compatible.

There must be a middle-of-the-road course and this applies too to the question of more economic finance policies in the public sector. Public spending cannot just be stopped suddenly. But excessive expenditure must be avoided and the essential cutting back of milliards for public expenditure for reforms should not mean a total renunciation of reforms.



Some reforms require more cou[illegible] energy than money. And other[illegible] can just as well be postponed[illegible] impossible to make a wage-earner [illegible]stand that he has to pay extra ta[illegible] that higher grants can be paid to graduates!

The Bonn government has for [illegible] known better than its expert [illegible] Now it is making a last desperate [illegible] The last general election was w[illegible] economic scores, and failure to [illegible] stability will mean the government [illegible] out in 1973. Alex Möller did [illegible] service to Karl Schiller when he [illegible] over the Finance Ministry to [illegible] Schiller had to step down the govern[illegible] would crash about his ears. Refor[illegible] only be carried out from a platfor[illegible] stability.

Neither the government nor any[illegible] else wants to carry out the dictatorial[illegible] that seem the last resort to cool down [illegible] overheated economy and which [illegible] tend to lead to a wages and prices [illegible]

A restoration of sanity by publi[illegible] hard facts about the state of the [illegible] seems to be the best step to take [illegible] our economic system. It is ess[illegible] take a bold step and then sta[illegible] ground. Then we will see whe[illegible] economy of our country is all right.

Franz Thoma

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 June 1971)

BDI report quells fears of economic recession this year

No recession in 1971 – that is the forecast made by the Confederation of Federal Republic Industries (BDI) in a report recently published in Düsseldorf. But mistaken wages policies could lead to a slump later, the BDI warns.

Developments on the wages and salaries front could cause a downward spiral, but it is likely that these developments will gradually improve, says the BDI, and thereafter the economy should start on an expansive trend again.

The Confederation forecasts an actual growth rate of three per cent in the gross national product for the current year. But the wages-per-item costs in 1971 are expected to rise by eight per cent. This increase is too high for stability to be maintained.

Export and import quotas should both rise by eleven per cent this year, according to BDI estimates.

The BDI expressed the opinion that the concerted action committee was neither a decision-making nor a legislative body. It had 'however' been a useful setup in the past, the BDI report stated, since it had brought about talks between both sides of industry. On the other hand in 1970 concerted action failed to halt the costs spiral with all its consequences.

The BDI has spoken out decisively in favour of a European Economic and Monetary Union. It rejects isolated solutions to crisis situations.

Member States of the European Economic Community must, in the opinion of BDI officials, be prepared to make the Common Market into an organisation that takes the rest of the world into consideration and not a closed shop.

Looking back over the past year the Confederation of Federal Republic Industries speaks of twelve months of good trading at home and abroad, but sharp rises in costs, cutbacks in profits and increased worries about the state of the economic cycle.

The crippling eternal triangle of rapidly rising production costs, slumping profits and considerable difficulties in financing new investments must be recognises as soon as possible and neutralised, the BDI report states. This has only been partly possible so far.

Contradictory statements particularly with regard to industrial, social-services and fiscal policies have created considerable economic uncertainty in the opinion of the Confederation of Industries.

Floating the Mark was, it says, an act conforming with the regulations of the EEC in order to overcome the difficulties that had arisen. At the moment the outcome of this move and the effect that it would have on exports and m[illegible] particularly agriculture can scarcely [illegible] estimated, the BDI states.

The 200-page report has been published under the title *Industrie in der sozialen Marktwirtschaft* (Industry in a free enterprise welfare State).

The Confederation of Federal Republic Industries says that it has been possible for this country to build up a state of general prosperity that has never before been known in Germany in a few [illegible] years under the free-enterprise and welfare-State system.

It is only in our times with a basis of economic freedom that we have been able to achieve such swift social progress that every worker is prosperous and has more economic freedom than in the past.

This is the ultimate proof that a social economy creates a higher standard of living for all and makes this higher standard safe.

Thus, the BDI says, the people of this country should be spared concrete proof that if we stray from the free-enterprise welfare-State we will spiral downwards to a lower standard of living.

The main impulse behind this economic system of course comes from large companies in private ownership. Freedom of the economy and freedom of the people are one and the same thing.

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 11 June 1971)

COMMERCE

Communist world gradually comes to terms with the Common Market

Handelsblatt
Deutsche Wirtschaftszeitung
Industriekurier

The speed at which negotiations for the extension of the European Economic Community have progressed of *late* has challenged the East Bloc to rethink its attitudes towards the Community.

Up until now it was a matter of *pressing* urgency for the European Economic Community to be recognised – even without the new members – since *the* East Bloc knew it would have to contend with a front of communal trading policies from 1973 onwards, for which the six members of the EEC had committed themselves.

But if the Six should expand to ten member countries there could be a decisive shift in the market for many goods supplied by Eastern European countries to Western Europe. This would without question open up a broad field for negotiations.

For the time being the East Bloc is not decided about the attitude it should adopt towards the European Economic Community. EEC President Franco Malfatti advised the member countries in his policy speech in February this year that they should adhere to each other as far as possible so that they should not be swayed by occasional inconsequential impulses to take any prejudiced view of the future community *trading* policy with regard to the East Bloc.

At the *moment* EEC officials are looking at *the* question of trade with the East Bloc very pragmatically. At Berlaymont, the European Economic Com*munity* headquarters in Brussels, there is an almost constant daily stream of VIPs from East Bloc States.

The only exceptions to this rule are the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic. As a general rule foreign trade experts of the Common Market are not expecting to obtain solemn recognition by the East, but, as one senior official expressed it, "working conditions".

In any case the Community and its organisations will have to be accepted as partners across the negotiating table when it comes to signing treaties and trade agreements.

Brussels observers realised long ago that the Soviet view of the European Economic Community is no longer as a threatening instrument of Nato aggression. And it has been well known for some time that the viability of the Common Market has been realised and accepted.

Nor does Moscow still consider the Six as a disrupting factor in East-West trade negotiations since trade with the EEC is expanding faster for the East Bloc than is trade with other countries.

Step by step therefore the East Bloc States are coming to terms with the European Economic Community. They have become accustomed to seeing EEC officials at meetings of international organisations such as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the UN Economic Commission for Europe. They signed joint documents with them.

Agricultural agreements, sixteen in all, have been reached between the Community and Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania.

Brussels can see no point in opening up direct contacts between the EEC and Comecon in Moscow since the Comecon headquarters is a secretariat for coordinating a completely different kind of economic and legal setup than the European Commission.

If the individual countries of Eastern Europe have not completed trade treaties with the European Economic Community by 1973 – some of the present agreements do not run out until the beginning of 1974 – then business will have to continue without treaties.

Formal recognition is only one of the three central problems of trade between the Common Market and the East Bloc. In Brussels it is considered highly likely that the East will throw its present objections on this score out the window.

However, central problems such as how to convert the present speedy increase in turnover, made possible by agricultural and raw material deliveries in the main, to a system of industrial supplies that ensures a secure future or how the communal East Bloc trade policies are to be presented to the European Economic Community in detail, are much more difficult to solve.

Since 1958 the countries with State monopoly trading have increased their share of the EEC's foreign trade with imports going up by 4.2 per cent to six per cent and EEC exports by 3.9 per cent to 6.9 per cent in 1970.

Forty per cent of trade between the EEC and the East Bloc involves the Federal Republic (exclusive of trade between the two parts of Germany).

Increases in turnover in trade with individual East Bloc countries fluctuate from year to year and sometimes quite markedly. In 1970 the EEC countries imported 13.3 per cent more from the East Bloc than in the previous year, but imports from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics were only five per cent up.

Exports from the Six to the East Bloc increased by eighteen per cent in all. But exports to the Soviet Union were only up by 3.5 per cent following a sharp rise the previous year. Czechoslovakia bought thirty per cent more from the EEC than in 1969 and Hungary 44 per cent more.

With the exception of Poland all East Bloc countries made a deficit in their trading with the Common Market.

These deficits immediately throw up the question of credit. This matter is being worked on by Brussels at the moment. The details of credit ceilings, duration of loans and other conditions have to be finalised and this is being carried out with uniform foreign trade in mind.

The new trade policy will have to get to grips with industrial cooperation in a big way. Officials in Brussels are dampening down the hopes of their Eastern counterparts that cooperation will of necessity mean exceptional treatment, such as for instance making reimportation of products permissible.

When Comecon trade representatives put forward claims for special treatment officials in Brussels counter with remarks such as, "Even the Ford parent company in the United States, which cooperates and co-produces with its Cologne subsidiary, does not go in for exceptional rights."

The first essential, Brussels says, is for both sides to sit down round the negotia*ting table*.

No one in Brussels has overlooked the fact that with the new members, associates and other countries that are tied to the European Economic Community by trade agreements (a total of sixty countries, according to Brussels) as well as with the 91 developing countries that enjoy trade preferences, the East Bloc will have a hard time and be in a weak position.

Unlike the United States, Japan or Canada the countries of the East Bloc, experience has taught us, repeatedly try to get round the EEC hurdles by virtue of their economic system, and their lack of capital and management, but have a hard time doing so.

Another special case is the trade between the European Economic Community and the German Democratic Republic. Bonn's five EEC partners accept the nature of the trade between the two parts of Germany and treat their trade with East Berlin as they would trade with any outside country.

GDR excluded

From a strictly legalistic point of view the GDR comes outside the categories of the Treaty of Rome which differentiates only between member countries and third-party countries, although in 1957 the Six added a rider to the treaty about trade between the two parts of Germany.

For as long as Bonn's EEC partners accept the Federal Republic's motives for trading with the German Democratic Republic the GDR will continue to enjoy diverse preferences. How much of the present four and a half milliard annual turnover in trade between the two Germanies comes from the financial advantages the GDR derives from the EEC is something that cannot be worked out exactly in Brussels.

All in all Brussels has got used to the shadow member of the Community.

Egbert Stehlke

(Handelsblatt, 11 June 1971)

East Bloc begins to dabble on European money markets

With utmost skill the East Bloc is attempting to free itself from its economic isolation towards the West and to improve its financial power in European exchange and finance markets.

For this purpose communal organisations have been set up with Western partners, such as the recently started East-West Financing Company, *Centropa*, which operates in Poland, and now in addition the Centrofin Bank, both of which have headquarters in Vienna.

Centrofin was set up with a starting capital of seven million Austrian schillings. It is a joint venture of the Bank für Arbeit und Wirtschaft (Vienna) which has close ties with the Bank für Gemeinwirtschaft in Frankfurt, and the Bank Handlowy (Warsaw), the Banco di Sicilia (Palermo), the Banco Popular Español (Madrid), Kleinwort Benson Limited (London), the Banque Occidentale pour l'Industrie et le Commerce (Paris) and the Bank of Tokyo.

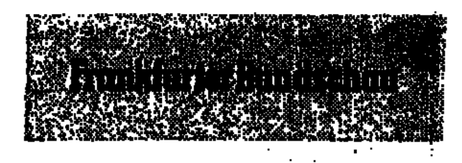
Each of these banks put up capital of one million schillings. Centrofin is designed to promote economic cooperation between the East and West and to tap the Eurodollar market for international financing.

Thus Austria is trying to polish up the image of East-West trade which has become rather tarnished of late and to develop super-national connections from the bilateral transit and clearing trade.

In 1964 the transferable rouble was introduced simultaneously with the setting up of the International Bank for Economic Cooperation in Moscow. Even in Eastern Europe these moves were of little significance.

The financial means of the International Investment Bank of Comecon which was set up on 1 January, one thousand million roubles, of which one third is in convertible currencies, are not sufficient for financing international trade.

For this reason there has been an increase in the dealings of communal



East-West banking organisations, via licences and the exchange of technical knowhow and also switched transactions (imports and exports via an intermediate country, especially exports to a dollar country by a third country which gets the dollars).

Heavy debts to the Federal Republic are one clear indication of how essential it is for the East Bloc to "pump" in this way. Taking into consideration deals that have not yet been completed the East Bloc has chalked up debts of seven milliard Marks on Bonn's slate.

This is equal to one year's exports from this country to Comecon. Therefore there is little room for manoeuvre for increasing the volume of trade by means of loans.

Another attitude was taken by the Polish trade attaché in Vienna. The Poles who are liberalising their trading with Austria from 1 January 1972 onwards and intend to wind up business in dollars view similar cooperation with the Federal Republic as feasible.

The trade attaché said: "We are less concerned with building on the market than on the wares that we must sell."

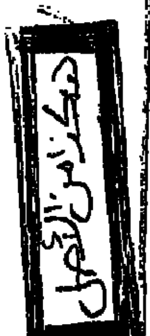
Since the Soviet Union supplies no large units of machinery to the Western world the Polish machine-tools industry will one day fill this gap. Poland would like to relieve the duties of the West German machine-building industry towards the United States (investment of plant in the Federal Republic) as well as towards the European Economic Community by large-scale deliveries of heavy machinery to West German importers.

This will at first be in the form of lathes and will later extend to finished articles thanks to the extension of Polish raw materials industries (coal, sulphur, copper). Deposits of copper have been discovered recently in Gliwice. The capacities are certainly not likely to lead to the level of "dumping competition" that the West German industry so fears, he said.

As an example of this the trade attaché quoted the Fiat factories in Poland which are not sufficiently productive to satisfy demand in the West. Cooperation is the only way to strengthen existing business ties.

Felix Schneider

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 8 June 1971)



■ TECHNOLOGY

Powerful new short wave transmitter ready in time for Munich Olympics

Forty miles west of Munich, near Ettringen in the Wertachtal, Europe's largest short-wave transmitter complex is under construction.

The Bundespost is installing the complex for Deutsche Welle, which at present transmits 89 short-wave programmes in 33 languages all over the world.

Deutsche Welle's existing transmitters and relay stations in Jülich, near Cologne, Kigali, Rwanda (Central Africa), and Sines, Portugal, have given stalwart service but are no longer adequate.

The two most powerful transmitters to date have been the two 250-kilowatt units at Kigali. Wertachtal is to boast twelve 500-kilowatt high frequency transmitters. They will be linked by remote control with 67 aerials.

The aerials are or will be between 35 and 125 metres (115 and 400ft) in height and so arranged as to resemble a three-armed starfish extending over two kilometres (a mile and a half) in one direction.

Directional aerials and what for the layman is a confused tangle of cables are to be erected by Brown, Boveri of Mannheim.

Power is fed to the aerials by hollow conductor cables specially developed for the purpose and the first of their kind in the world.

The cables were developed by Felten & Guilleaume of Cologne and Gutehoffnungshütte cable division of Hannover, two firms that are normally fierce competitors and joined forces solely for this contract.

The two firms manufactured equal amounts of the total 53 kilometres (33 miles) of cable on identical, specially designed machines. For transport reasons the cable was delivered in 180-metre (200-yard) lengths.

Wertachtal cable is nearly 25 centimetres (ten inches) in diameter and will go down in the history of technology as the bulkiest in the world.

It consists of two cocentric metal tubes joined at short intervals by tripod supports made of Teflon, the synthetic material used in non-stick frying pans.

Shorted at both ends after installation the two tubes form a complete circuit.



The alternating current maintained at a steady frequency and the modulation that transmits the news travels in one direction along the outer surface of the copper inner tube and in the other along the inner surface of the outer tube, which consists mainly of aluminium with a two-per-cent admixture of manganese.

The two tubes also differ in theway in which they are manufactured. The aluminium tube comes in spirals, the copper in rings, the idea being to ensure that the combination is both flexible enough for laying and sufficiently rigid once in position.

The result is a saving in both tube thickness and weight. The copper inner tube roughly ten centimetres (four inches) in diameter is only six tenths of a millimetre (24/1,000ths of an inch) thick.

The aluminium outer tube, which is approximately ten inches in diameter is two and a half millimetres (1/10th of an inch) thick.

The two tubes also differ in the way in and inner conductor is maintained during use at a pressure of four atmospheres with the aid of dry compressed air and special valves.

The compressed air serves two purposes. It provides insulation between the two conductors, ensuring that no current jumps from one to the other. Also, due to the molecular density, it makes it easier to draw off excess heat.

It is a well-known fact that electrical resistance in the conductor always leads to a loss of power in the cable. This vagrant current is transformed into heat.

In the Wertachtal cable two thirds of the heat loss occurs in the inner tube and one third in the outer tube.

Assuming a maximum outside temperature of 35 degrees centigrade and maximum frequency of 26 megahertz, or twenty-six million oscillations per second, the inner tube must not reach a temperature of more than 140 degrees and the outer tube no more than 75 degrees centigrade.

The compressed air draws off excess heat from the inner conductor and directs it towards the outer conductor, which in its turn is cooled by means of conduction, convection and radiation.

Heat is drawn off at all points where the cable is mounted on supports or fixed in some other way. Convection is used during its travels underground, which account for eleven kilometres (seven miles) of the total length. Radiation is resorted to at and above ground level, the cable being mounted on prestressed concrete supports.

Convection underground is the work of a continuous current of fresh air, approximately 25 cubic metres (32.5 cubic yards) a second per section of underground channel.

The temperature on the outer surface of the aluminium tube automatically regulates the flow of fresh air.

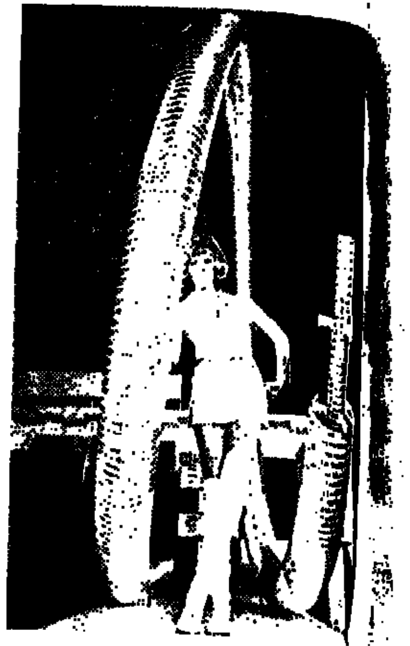
Heat loss above ground is intensified by means of an outer coating of special paint. The cable is at no point exposed to sunlight, being covered by concrete casing which also protects it from the chunks of ice that fall off the aerials in winter.

On-site joining of the 180-metre sections of cable is also an operation worthy of note! The aluminium tubes are welded together with the aid of protective gas and specially designed intermediate sections, a new process. The ends of copper tubing are soldered. The whole is completely airtight.

The forces generated while the cable is in use call for special constructional measures. Frustrated heat expansion accounts for an axial force amounting to a maximum of half a ton per cable. A further two and a half tons are caused by the compressed air between the two conductors.

In the cellar of the aerial selector building 41 cables converge on one point. The thrust, 123 tons, has to be kept in check by means of a steel structure anchored in the buildings' foundations.

The compressed air also causes powerful radial force at bends and corners in the cable. This can amount to as much as 65 tons and can be visualised as brother of the forces unleashed in tangle of garden hose once the water is turned full on.



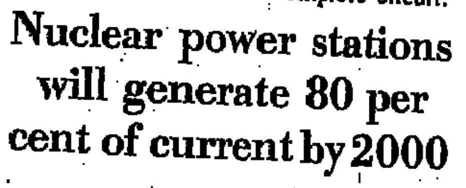
The giant cable to be employed in Deutsche Welle's Wertachtal transmitter complex (Photo: F&G/Kabelwerk)

Massive concrete blocks are in place to forestall any untoward movement on the part of the Wertachtal cable in a comparable situation.

The first stage of construction should be ready by next summer in time to inaugurate transmissions from the Munich Olympics.

Hellmut Droste

(Handelsblatt, 9 June 1971)



Nuclear power stations will generate 80 per cent of current by 2000

By 1980 thirty per cent of the electric power used in this country will be generated by nuclear power stations. By the end of the century nuclear power will probably account for eighty per cent of the current in the national grid.

Addressing the Mainz annual conference of the Association of Federal Republic Engineers Professor Walter Ludewig, chairman of the association, stated that by then nuclear fission may well have been superseded by nuclear fusion as a means of generating power.

Even assuming that the Earth's population at the turn of the century is 7,000 million and that per capita power consumption is five times what it is today in the European Common Market a single per cent of the heavy water in the seven seas would be sufficient to fuel fusion reactors for three million years.

In view of the variety of technological and scientific tasks facing Mankind it was, Professor Ludewig said, a mystery to him why less and less sixth-formers were opting for other disciplines.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 16 June 1971)

New aid for forensic scientists

Forensic scientists and coin-collectors have one problem in common: the need to take photographs at close range. Getting the right format-filling size, focus and exposure time is easier said than done. The Zeiss Tessovar needs the focus to be set once only. Distance from the object can then be adjusted as required. Shutter speed and so on are set automatically. Virtually any standard camera from miniature to Polaroid can be fitted to this device.

(Photo: Carl Zeiss, Oberkochen)

The days of the commuter motorist are numbered

NEUE Hannoversche Presse

Motorists who drive to and from work in urban areas every day beware! Your days are numbered. With traffic grinding to a halt at peak periods and conventional methods and appeals to common sense proving of no avail, prohibitive meter charges and other measures will soon descend on commuter traffic according to a motor industry association conference in Travemünde.

A survey conducted by the Bad Godesberg Institute of Applied Social Science and submitted to the conference revealed that money spent on advertising campaigns designed to persuade commuters to use public transport has virtually been wasted.

A man who opts for public transport is, the survey concludes, seen by motorists as someone who is scared, inflexible, old and feeble. His example is given the thumbs down sign.

The man who wends his way through rush-hour traffic twice a day is felt by fellow-motorists to be progressive, dynamic, masculine, courageous and young.

As transport planners have proved unable to make public transport a attractive enough proposition to forestall chaos on the roads the association, which still feels that the private car will remain the more attractive alternative for the next fifteen years, proposed a plan of its own for city traffic.

In town and city centres priority is to be given to shoppers and delivery vans. Commuters are to be kept out and adequate parking facilities provided at public transport terminals out of town. Timetables and routes of public transport are to be improved accordingly.

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 11 June 1971)

■ OUR WORLD

Wild West moves into Upper Bavaria

Münchner Merkur

Tourists and people on excursions will soon be able to see in real life what has only been available for entertainment until now in the cinema or on television screens. Cowboys will be seen lassoing steers, stage coaches and trains held up, fist fights over music hall girls will be re-enacted and howling Red Indians will do the war dance, when the Wild West is revived in a forest at Ammersee.

Seven American generals, popsinger Freddy and many other guests have accepted invitations to attend the opening of "Hot Gun Town" at Grafrath in the district of Fürstenfeldbruck.

The city will be in what it is hoped will become one of Europe's largest entertainment centres, a kind of Disneyland with attractions for young and old alike.

For many years the number one attraction has been a fairytale park with a miniature railway, small cars and figures from the tales written by the Grimm brothers, moving and telling stories on a tape-recorder. Three million people have already visited the park.

Toni Lötschert, director of the fairytale park, spent four weeks looking round the Disneylike fun cities, before he set about his project for Europe's first Western city. He imported from America various items for decoration, such as stuffed armchairs, highly decorated cash registers and handcuffs, dating from the pioneering era.

The film-set builder Damrauh erected nineteen houses. They were all built from wood, but contrary to their American models they were made winter-proof. These included a jail and a local newspaper, Frontier News.

It is proposed that the city will one day include as many as seventy buildings. A railroad, 1.4 kilometres in length is proposed. It will have 9,612 sleepers, handed over offically by the Bundesbahn. The railroad will connect Hot Gun Town with a fort, a car park for 5,000 vehicles and the open land nearby, the prairie.

The line will wind through a canyon, made of concrete and made to look as natural as possible. The only thing missing so far is the old steam engine. This is being made ready by engineers of the Zillertal railway.

It is not intended that the Wild West city should become a sort of open air museum. Toni Lötschert, well versed in how to make things charming, wants to bring life into the Wild West city. To this end he has engaged six actors from Munich. They will live in the city and will, each day, give a real life show. "Mayor" Lötschert has promised visitors that at first things will go quietly – there will be only nine dead men each day!

Every two hours five can-can girls will dance in the Silver Dollar Saloon, where there will be seating acommodation for 500 people in very long bars.

Fifteen Yugoslavs have carved wood in the Wild West style for decorations. The music played on the electric piano was prepared by a firm in New York. The silken curtain that covers the stage cost 5,000 Marks. For the total cost for fitting out the Wild West city the owners prefer to maintain a respectable silence.

Sixteen horses are kept in the city's stalls along with a few ponies, and a four-horse carriage. There is also a smithy. It is not only the regular Cowboys who are allowed to go riding but also visitors. The entrance fee without riding is three Marks for adults, two Marks for children.

In a Mexican restaurant visitors can eat as much as they want or are able for eight Marks (children half price). The menu consists of 150 cold specialities at a buffet.

There are no buffalos to be seen but the Augsburg Cowboy and Indian club plans to pitch its tents in pasturelands near Grafrath and fill the wood-built city with plenty of folk in authentic costumes. At the souvenir shop it is possible to buy trappers' furs and all other kinds of western gear especially imported. Masses are to be held in the church on the main square and a real priest will bless real marriages.

The scene is so close to reality that a few days before the town was opened a sheriff stood there with his gun at the ready. But he was not signed up. He was a genuine Bavarian state police officer, keeping his eye on convicts from a nearby prison who had been drafted in to make up for the shortage of labour.

An additional attraction is offered by various teams of television cameramen using this unique stage to make complete Wild West series and thus avoiding having to make complicated studio sets. Visitors will be allowed to watch.


The High Street in Grafrath's Wild West city (Photo: Hot Gun)

The television channel ZDF plans to shoot there 52 episodes of the series *Stadt ohne Sheriff* (city without a sheriff).

Every Sunday there will be a live transmission *Rendezvous Silver Dollar Saloon* from Grafrath.

Even the East German DEFA wants to film Westerns in the Upper Bavarian hunting grounds. And there are hopes that an American company will arrive on the Ammersee with super-hero John Wayne.

This city is unique in Europe but Lötschert said: "There will be plenty of copies." Guests are expected to come not only from nearby Munich and Augsburg but also from abroad to this hitherto unknown area north of the Ammersee.

Toni Lötschert and his restaurant companion Walter Block who also runs bars in the Westerwald, are planning a large camping site for tourists and a hotel with 80 beds at the outset right by the woods near the Wild West city.

Karl Stankiewitz
(Münchner Merkur, 8 June 1971)

Europe's most modern congress centre ready by 1973

Europe's must modern congress centre is going up by Dammtor station, Hamburg. The builders believe that in the year 2000 the building will still satisfy all demands.

Two years ago the site blossomed with roses and tulips. Now a colossus of steel and concrete has risen up whose outlines already indicate that an unusual building is in the making.

Hamburg's city fathers, usually very economical, have allocated 130 million Marks to give the city a new image so that it will be thought of as the "metropolis of the North".

It is still two years before the centre will be opened but already a number of events are scheduled to take place there. More than sixty planned major occasions each with 2,500 to 3,000 participants underline the early successes of a hard advertising campaign.

It has been arranged that in 1974 the German Chemists' Congress and the German Lawyers Congress should take place there.

In 1975 the Federal Republic Confederation of Trades Unions will hold its congress there. The German Dentists Association has also booked the congress centre for its meeting in the same year.

Otto Scharein, who for 25 years has been very successful running the spa resorts of St Peter-Ording and Travemünde, will head the congress centre staff that should one day be 100 strong. The main task he and his team will have will be to make of Hamburg a major city for international congresses and to stimulate tourism. In the full sense of the phrase, visitors will get "full service".

Otto Scharein, 54, born in Berlin, calls his attempts "service to perfection" and hopes that he will be able to give the phrase "Congress made in Hamburg" an international appeal.

The new congress centre has been arranged on a grand scale. It will be able to accommodate approximately 10,000 people in 17 halls. The largest hall will accommodate almost 3,000 guests, and the festival hall will have accommodation for 1,500 people. There will be an underground carpark for 1,100 vehicles.

Technically the centre will have everything that will still be up-to-date in the year 2000. It will have its own closed-circuit television service with projectors for large screen, simultaneous translation equipment capable of handling six languages and other refinements.

It is expected that one day doctors at a congress in Hamburg will be able to observe an operation in an American hospital, relayed to them direct by satellite.

Plans are also afoot to make congresses held in Hamburg "Congresses in the cassette". This implies that all important speeches and discussions will be recorded on tape so that participants can take them away with them when the congress breaks up.

The centre and the traffic in front of the centre will be controlled by cameras. Lighting and sound-proofing will include the very latest developments.

Electronic data processing equipment is also on the list of items to be included in the centre by Otto Scharein. The computer will handle addresses from all four corners of the world. Later it is hoped that the figure will be increased to 400,000.

The first edition of the congress centre's prospectus has been printed in a six-figure printing run, and is decorated with the centre's colours, blue and silver. The blue symbolises the maritime aspect of Hamburg and the silver represents brightness, earnestness and Hanseatic reliability, which it is hoped will be a talking point in every continent of the world.

In addition to this the silver is a symbol of the money that the local business world hopes will soon be pouring in. The owner of a pub at the nearby Dammtor station has already had new menus printed calling his establishment "The Congress Station Tavern".

Gert Kistenmacher
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 June 1971)


Hamburg's congress centre under construction (Photo: Dieter Preis)

SPORT

Olympic computers will set up records of their own

Next year's Munich Olympics will not only be the short-distance Olympics, to use the slogan that was instrumental in gaining IOC acceptance of the Bavarian capital's bid to host the world's major sporting event.

Munich will also be an Olympics of direct links. Sixty-odd miles of cable and wire wend their way from one point to another beneath the stands of the main stadium alone.

The five computers that are to handle the results are linked by nearly 10,000 miles of cable with 400 teleprinters, fifty data-printers and 100 data-readers on the spot and at press centres and information offices. Direct links of this complexity are essential if the world is to learn swiftly, in detail, definitively and comprehensively what is going on at its greatest sporting event.

Major domestic electronics manufacturers, mindful of their reputation, have set about the job of fitting out the Olympic facilities with a will.

No one may have Olympic feats of technology in mind but there can be no doubt that the Olympic site at Oberwiesenfeld, Munich, will soon be a hallmark of technological progress.

It will not be an inexpensive business. The largest domestic manufacturer in the field will be responsible for supplying much of the electrical equipment and reckons that it alone will be investing 65 million Marks in the Olympic telecommunications network.

The Games will be watched all over the world by an estimated 1,000 million televiewers. It will not be Munich's fault if they are unable to do so in colour. Worldwide colour transmissions are planned for the first time ever.

Amongst other things this means a considerable increase in light requirements. More than 500 floodlight installations will ensure that viewers fail to notice when the sun goes down and is replaced by the glare of artificial light.

Up to twelve different programmes and sixty commentaries in the various languages can be beamed all over the world simultaneously by the Olympic television facilities at Munich.

Broadcasting corporations in this country have clubbed together with a number of authorities in other countries in order to cope with the techological acessories and organisation. A single corporation would have neither sufficient equipment nor enough staff to manage the operation.

Roughly 1,200 broadcasters and 1,500 engineers will be involved in Olympic programming next summer. In the off-tube complex housing correspondents from all over the world sixty cabins will each accommodate two commentators complete with monitor screens on which to base their commentaries.

A centre of this kind for live transmissions is indispensable. No authority will be able to have a commentator in attendance at every stadium. The canning factory will be equally indispensable.

All recordings must be taped. Viewers in other parts of the world cannot be expected to sit glued to the screen at the dead of night merely bacause the difference in time means that an important event would have to be shown in the early hours if it were to be a live transmission.

The world TV centre in which events will be taped is to house roughly sixty recording devices costing more than half a million Marks each.

A kind of exclusive Olympic TV will be provided for the professionals, ranging from newspaper reporters to adjudicators. In a TV centre of their own they will be able to select the programme they need.

Some 3,000 receivers will be linked to a special closed-circuit service from which any one of fifteen simultaneous programmes can be selected.

An Olympic record can already be forecast. The Munich Olympics will boast the swiftest long-range data processing system ever employed at a sporting event.

All results will be available in the shortest conceivable time. For over a year thirty computer men have been laying the groundwork for this system, programming the rules and regulations of the various systems of adjudication, for instance.

Many surprises have been sprung in the process. What, for example, is to be done when the German version of the Queensberry rules, translated by an old lady, proves inadequate and the original must be consulted?

How, for that matter, can it be ensured that a twenty-year-old girl is not printed out as the new Olympic heavyweight boxing champion when the wrong information is fed into the computer (which can then hardly be blamed for making a mess of the results)?

A hundred men are already engaged in drafting computer programmes, and a good half of their work is devoted to plausibility controls designed to ensure that the computer itself will spot that something is amiss.

Another Olympic newcomer in Munich will be a kind of bumper Olympic encyclopaedia. In all press centres and at a number of points in the city that are accessible to the general public electronic query devices linked to two computers will be at the ready to answer virtually any question in connection with the Olympic Games and ancillary events.

The computers have been plied with information for some time. The historical section goes back to the first modern Olympics in 1896 and includes details of virtually forgotten Olympic disciplines such as rope-hanging, single-stick practice, tug-of-war and single and double pot shots at a running deer.

A kind of TV screen who's who provides information about all competitors ranging from dates of birth to hobbies. World records and Olympic medallists are facts that the computer has at its finger tips. It knows the laws of all Olympic disciplines too.

Three hundred hostesses will provide the answers on 72 screens. Were every possible question to be answered in writing the result would be a football pitch piled two metres (six foot six) high with paper.

The computer is virtually indispensable at Olympics these days. Mexico was probably the last time data processing was not used.

Many another electronic achievement is on the Olympic programme. One of the major electronic highlights will be the final hour of the Games. Vast quantities of the final report are to be printed and distributed on the last day.

After the Tokyo Olympics nearly two years passed before the final report containing all results was published. Athletes can but dream of emulating this radical speed-up of operations.

Gerd Materne
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 3 June 1971)

Bundestag sports club celebrates 20 years of existence

Bundestag member Dr Gölter recently told pressmen that parliamentary debates are "sporting encounters of the first water." The parry and thrust of debate, battles of words, would seem to rank among the toughest sporting disciplines practised in the Bundestag.

But the Bundestag is a markedly sporting parliament in the usual meaning of the word too. The Bundestag sports club has been in being now for twenty years.

When the club was founded in October 1951 the sole discipline at which the founding members, all 54 of them, including parliamentary officials, could try their hand was boxing – but only with punch bags.

The following year football, tennis and table tennis were added and the first members of parliament began to take an interest in the club. Slowly but surely membership has increased to 850, roughly half of whom are MPs.

Chancellor Brandt, Economic Affairs and Finance Minister Schiller and ex-Chancellor Erhard number among the honorary members of the club.

At present the committee is thirteen strong. Five members are MPs. The Hon. Chairman is Dr Adolf Müller-Emmert, his deputy Frau Annemarie Griesinger.

As support has grown the number of disciplines has also increased. The most popular of the present twelve disciplines is rifle-shooting, of which there are 180 practitioners.

For several years the Bundestag marksmen have been represented at the national championships. Last year, for instance, two members were among the first ten.

Rowing, riding and athletics are as popular as winter sports and self-defence. Far more members are interested in swimming than can be catered for, which is some indication of how keen MPs of all parties are on going in at the deep end, as it were.

Club members meet once or twice a week. In summer the Bundestag has open-air sports facilities of its own. In winter the members train in school gyms in various part of the town that are hired out to sports clubs of all kinds on an hourly basis.

All trainers are members of the club and proficient instructors in their chosen discipline. A number of them have attended trainer's courses.

Morning gymnastics is a special subsection of the athletics group. Members who prefer to rise early can meet twice a week at half past six in the morning for a warm-up. The workout is supervised by a girl student of physical education.

The athletes' aim is to fulfil the provisions of the sporting proficiency badge, an emblem in gold, silver and bronze awarded by the Federal Republic Sports League to applicants who qualify in a variety of disciplines and age groups.

One Bundestag athlete has passed the various tests 28 times. Two years ago Frau Griesinger was the first woman MP to be awarded the sporting proficiency badge in gold. This, though, is the only competitive sport in which club members engage.

The idea of Bundestag sport is to keep members fit and healthy and help offset the *déformation professionelle* caused by a largely sedentary profession.

The footballers are the sole exception. The Bundestag football team occasionally plays against cities and countries. On 16 and 17 May 1971 at Altstätten in Switzerland parliamentary footballers from Austria, Switzerland and this country took part in a three-cornered tournament, for instance.

The footballers also pay a little extra towards the cost of buying and looking after their kit in addition to the regular subscription.

Accidents and injuries seldom occur in any discipline. To be on the safe side, though, a doctor specialising in sporting injuries is always on call and two masseurs and a masseuse are at the ready.

For months the Federal Republic Sports League has run an unparallelled keep fit campaign to encourage the general public to engage in sporting activity of some kind or other.

One statistic alone is sufficient to underline the need for everyone to do so. More than a quarter of million heart attacks a year are attributed to lack of activity. Their cost to the economy and the victims themselves runs into millions.

The Bundestag sports club joined in the keep fit campaign last year, calling on all parliamentarians and parliamentary officials to get down to some kind of sporting activity or other.

I. von Koscielski
(Das Parlament, 12 June 1971)

Aden	SA $ 0.05	Colombia	col. $ 1.—	Formosa	NT £ 5.—	Indonesia	Rp. 15.—	Malawi	11 d	Paraguay	G. 15.—	Sudan	PT 5.—
Afghanistan	Af 10.—	Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—	France	FF 0.60	Iran	Rl 10.—	Malaysia	M. $ 0.40	Peru	S. 3.50	Syria	£ S 0.60
Algeria	DA 0.60	Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—	Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Iraq	60 fils	Mali	FM 60.—	Philippines	P. phil 0.60	Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Angola	Esc. 1.—	Costa Rica	C 0.85	Gambia	11 d	Ireland	11 d	Mexico	$ 1.50	Poland	Zl. 0.50	Thailand	B 3.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—	Cuba	P 0.13	Germany	DM 1.—	Israel	I £ 0.40	Morocco	DM —.65	Portugal	Esc. 1.—	Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Australia	10 c.	Cyprus	11 d	Ghana	cedi 0.12	Italy	Lir. 80	Mozambique	Esc. 1.—	Rhodesia	11 d	Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Austria	S 3.—	Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50	Great Britain	11 d	Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Nepal	Mohur 1.—	Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—	Turkey	T £ 1.25
Belgium	bfr 6.—	Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Greece	Dr 4.—	Jamaica	11 d	Netherlands	Hfl 0.60	Rumania	Leu 0.50	Tunisia	65 M
Bolivia	$ b 1.50	Denmark	dkr 0.90	Guatemala	Q 0.15	Japan	Yen 60	Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25	Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60	Uganda	EAs 0.25
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35	Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15	Guayana	BWI $ 0.20	Jordan	50 fils	New Zealand	9 c.	Sweden	skr 0.60	UAR	PT 5.—
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05	Ecuador	S 2.50	Guinea	F.G. 30.—	Kenya	EAs 0.25	Nicaragua	C 0.65	Switzerland	FS 0.50	Uruguay	P 20.—
Burma	K 0.60	El Salvador	C 0.30	Haiti	G 0.65	Kuwait	50 fils	Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—	USA	£ 0.20
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—	Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30	Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20	Laos	Kip 60.—	Nigeria	11 d	Sierra Leone	Le 0.10	USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Cambodia	R 4.40	Fiji	11 d	Honduras	L 0.25	Lebanon	P 40.—	Norway	nkr 0.90	Somalia	Sh So 0.90	Venezuela	B 0.60
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Finland	fmk 0.50	Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70	Liberia	Lib $ 0.15	Pakistan	Rs 0.60	South Africa	Rand 0.10	Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20			Hungary	Ft 1.—	Libya	50 Mills	Panama	B. 0.15	South Korea	Won 35.—	Zambia	11 d
Ceylon	cR —.60			Iceland	Kr 5.—	Luxembourg	lfr 6			S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—		
Chile	Esc. 0.60			India	Rs 0.60	Madagascar	FM 30.—			Spain	Pts 8.—		